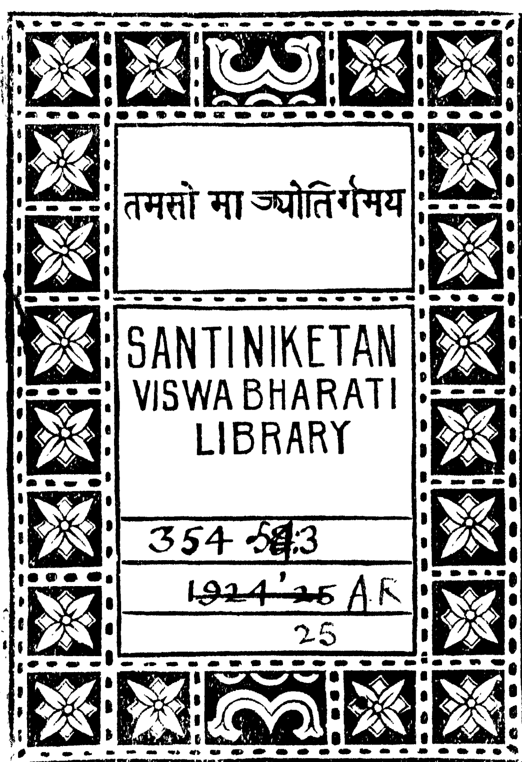


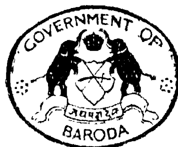
तमसो मा ज्योतिर्गमय
SANTINIKETAN
VISWA BHARATI
LIBRARY
354.54.3
1924'25 A.R
25

Published by order of His Highness the Maharaja Gaekwar.

Baroda

Administration Report

1924-25.



Printed at
THE BARODA STATE PRESS
1926.

BARODA,

1st June 1926.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HIGHNESS,

I have the honour to submit the State Administration Report for the year 1924-25.

The seasonal prospects for the Raj were satisfactory during the whole year. The Amreli district suffered from a slight shortage of rain; and Okhamandal, as usual, wanted more rains; yet the agricultural prosperity of the people was well maintained on the whole.

The financial condition of the State is sound. The revenues realised from various sources mounted up to the total of Rs. 2,44,75,894—a figure never reached before; while the expenses and disbursements were only Rs. 1,94,31,175, thus leaving a surplus of over fifty lakhs at the end of the year Our cash balances now exceed one crore and thirty-two lakhs, and are being safely and securely invested.

The several departments of administration have well maintained their level of efficiency. The Police and the Magistracy have earned a good name : and the general feeling of safety of person and property is being gratefully appreciated.

It is with regard to the Development departments, however, that some detailed comment is called for. Those administrative activities which are rightly credited with "nation building" tendencies continue to receive the close attention and sympathetic consideration which they need. It is a happy augury of the times that the beneficent activities of the Agricultural department are now being widely recognized. The increase in the number of artesian springs tapped in the Chanasma Taluka of the Kadi district is one remarkable aspect of the work of that department. Artesian tube wells have now been successfully sunk at Chanasma, Becharaji, Khambhel, Delmal and Venpura; and sub-artesian springs have been tapped at Sampawada, Maniari and Karansagar. These lucky finds of water amid the arid sands and salt marshes of Chanasma have inspired the people with fresh hope and the problem of drinking water which

had become acute owing to a succession of lean years and a general subsidence of the subsoil water level in the country has been considerably eased in consequence.

The restrictions lately imposed on the transport of cotton from a tract of inferior cotton variety to one of superior strain has largely prevented the abuse of promiscuous adulteration of cotton; and the supply of high class seed to the cultivators even in the inferior areas has tended to improve the quality of its staple to an extent as would gradually leave little inducement for indiscriminate blending or fraudulent practices. The superior cotton thus grown is being sold through the agency of Co-operative Societies; and the cotton so handled through the Co-operative Societies fetched an appreciably high price in proportion to the chances of adulteration they could eliminate by their honest dealings. The Director of Agriculture has now been asked to take up the work of improvement of the *mathio* variety of cotton in the Amreli district. His efforts for the introduction of the Pusa variety of wheat in the Kadi district are meeting with success; and the immunity thus secured against ravages of rust in the wheat crop is being generously acknowledged and appreciated. In the Navsari district improvements in the sugar cane crop both in quality and quantity will shortly engage his attention.

Next to agriculture, the staple industry of the country, come the manufacturing industries in this review of the year's work. The acute slump in trade from which the country has not yet revived continued its paralysing grip on the infant industries of the State as well. Trade depression and business failure have been painfully evident in the Bombay Presidency and Baroda could no more shake off the blighting effects of this Financial frost. The Industries and Commerce Department has now been asked to concentrate attention at present on the development of Port Okha lately opened for maritime traffic. The Sayaji Pier now opened at Your Highness' auspicious hands has a hopeful future; and

if we succeed in attracting large ocean-going steamers from foreign ports, the trade of the country is bound to receive a sharp fillip. Port Okha, unlike the other Kathiawad ports, is unhappily situated at the furthest extremity of the body politique; and it takes some time for healthy blood to pulsate from the heart at the Capital and course down to the tip of the toe Unless, therefore, it is fondly fostered and carefully nurtured it is likely to suffer from inanition and neglect. The State cannot afford to let its extremities get cold. A carefully worked out policy of protection may prove necessary in the interests of the State

Education continues to receive the sympathetic attention of the administration. The number of school-going children has increased by two thousand during the year under review. It is, however, more on the work of consolidation than of expansion that the department has concentrated its efforts of late. The Library movement has been thriving and our endeavour to spread the desire for knowledge among the masses has been progressing apace. Of the total population upwards of 55 per cent. have been served by Libraries or Reading Rooms; and even in the rural areas the extent of village population already provided with facilities for reading books and magazines has now exceeded 47 per cent. The Urban population has a cent per cent provision of Libraries and Reading Rooms.

The Medical Institutions and the department of Hygiene continue to do their beneficent work; and their utility is now well acclaimed and gratefully appreciated by the people. The State General Hospital has earned a reputation for clever and successful surgery and continues to attract large numbers of sufferers from far and near for the relief of their ailments. Even the Maternity Homes at the Capital are now always crowded and beds are not easily available. Old conservatism is capitulating even this last stronghold of isolation of its women folk and the relief obtained by expectant females at these lying-in-wards is enough to make numerous female hearts to send up their blessings to their humane and beneficent Ruler.

The Unani and Ayurvedic Systems of medical relief are gaining in popularity and the services of the Hakim provided at the Wadi dispensary are increasingly patronised. Ayurvedic Vaidyas have a scope of useful work in rural areas.

The Panchayats are progressing; but there is much room for improvement and acceleration yet in their snail's speed of progress. People are averse to shouldering unpopular responsibilities and are congenitally unprepared to accept new burdens or new schemes of taxation however sound. Villages are cut up by factions and feuds and communal rule in village affairs has not been above reproach. The advantages of village conciliators and communal mediators are not easily understood and progress in the art of self-government is poor in the basic stages. There is no reason, however, to lose faith. The Baroda and Navsari District Boards and the Navsari and Amreli Municipalities have kept up their sound traditions of beneficent activities.

I remain,

Your Highness' most obedient servant,

MANUBHAI NANDSHANKAR,

DEWAN.

Contents.

Baroda Administration Report.

CHAPTER I.

GENERAL AND POLITICAL.

A. The State of Baroda in 1924-25.

Territorial Divisions.

1. The State of Baroda, comprising an area of 8,135·2 square miles, is situated in the province of Gujarat, in five distinct territorial blocks cut off from each other by large tracts of British territory or of other Indian States. All the four large rivers of this province, namely the Tapti, the Narmada, the Mahi and the Sabarmati, with their several tributaries drain their waters through the territory. The southern district of Naosari lies north and south of the river Tapti, and is interlaced with villages under the Surat Collectorate, stretching itself in the east to the Khandesh Zilla. It has an area of 1,810·6 square miles, with a population of 3,40,372 ; and like the other districts is under the administrative control of a Suba whose head-quarters are at the town of Naosari, so well-known as the home of the intelligent and enterprising Parsi community.

The river Narmada with its picturesque coast forms the southern boundary of the Baroda district which contains the capital of the Raj, Baroda, a city of fine palaces and buildings, of roads well laid out, and parks and recreation grounds finely designed, with flourishing institutions of educative value. This district has an area of 1,922 square miles, and a population of 7,07,512.

Further up to the north of Ahmedabad lies the largest of the districts, Kadi, with its historical towns of Pattan and Sidhpur of the middle ages fame, and numerous archæological remains of great value. It has an area of 3,050 square miles,

and a population of 9,00,578. Its head-quarters are located at Mehsana, a rising little town of great potential importance, situated as it is on the R. M. Railway, almost in the centre of the district.

Far to the west in Kathiawar lie tracts of land isolated from each other, comprising the divisions of Amreli and Okhamandal with 1,077·4 square miles and 275·2 square miles of area and 1,52,585 and 25,475 souls as population respectively. Dwarka, the head-quarters of Okhamandal, is a place of pilgrimage of all India renown.

Area and population.

2. The following table gives the area and the population with the number of towns and villages in each district :—

Districts.	Area in Square Miles.	Population returned in 1921.	Number of Towns.	Number of inhabited villages.
1	2	3	4	5
Baroda	1,922	7,07,512	19	820
Kadi	3,050	9,00,578	15	1,036
Navsari	1,810·6	3,40,372	8	676
Amreli	1,077·4	1,52,585	4	242
Okhamandal ...	275·2	25,475	2	41
Total...	8,135·2	21,26,522	48	2,815

Religious Denominations.

3. Out of a total population of over two millions more than four-fifths or 17,42,160 were Hindus, while the Mahomedans numbered 1,62,320 or about 8 per cent. Tribes of animistic faiths numbered 1,63,077 according to the latest census, while the numbers of the Jains, the Parsis and the Christians were returned as 43,223, 7,530 and 7,421 respectively.

Thus almost all the religious denominations of India are found in the State. The spread of modern education and of humanistic ideas is steadily softening the edges and angularities of different faiths and the resulting broad sense of toleration reduces the chances of religious tension which was never very acute in the State.

Occupation of the people.

4. The chief occupation of the people is agriculture. According to the latest census, the percentage of the population in relation to the different main occupations is as follows :—

	Occupation.	Percent.
1.	Exploitation of animals and vegetation	66·4
2.	Industry	11·9
3.	Transport	1·3
4.	Trade	6·7
5.	Public Force	1·1
6.	Public Administration	2·0
7.	Professions and Liberal Arts	3·3
8.	Persons living on their own income	0·6
9.	Domestic service	0·3
10.	Insufficiently described occupation	5·9
11.	Unproductive	0·5

B. The Central Administration.

(a) THE MINISTERS.

The Minister and the Naib Dewans.

5. His Highness the Maharaja Shri Sayajirao III being the fountain-head of all power, authority and justice in the State, has invested the Executive Council with powers of administration, reserving to himself certain powers of the utmost significance. Sir Manubhai Nandshanker Mehta, Kt., C.S I., M.A., LL.B., continued to be the President of the Council in his capacity as the Minister of the Baroda State, and as such exercised general supervision and control over the whole administration with the help of three Naib Dewans and conducted the affairs of the Political Office which dealt with questions of relations of the State with the British Government and the other Indian States.

The system of the administration continued as in the preceding year. Shrimant Dewan Bahadur Ganpatrao Gaekwad, Bar-at-law, worked as the Naib Dewan and the First Councillor, Rao Bahadur Govindbhai H. Desai, B.A., LL.B., as the Naib Dewan looking after Inspection and Efficiency side of the administration of State Departments and the Second Councillor, and Rao Bahadur G. B. Ambegaokar, B.A., LL.B., as the Naib Dewan and the Third Councillor

The Huzur Central Office dealt with questions of administration coming up from various departments, submitted them to the Ministers or to the Council for orders, and conveyed the orders to the departments concerned for execution. The Central Office has been composed of three sections, Judicial, Revenue and Inspection, developed on Secretariat basis, each under an Assistant to the Ministers, the Chief Assistant to the Ministers dealing solely with the Inspection Section, started with a view to keep an eye on the efficiency of the different departments.

Constitution of the office.

6. Mr. G. A. Lele, B.A., worked as the Chief Assistant to the Ministers. He proceeded on leave prior to retirement from 16th December 1924 and he retired from the service on 1st June 1925; meanwhile the charge of this post remained with Mr. S. V. Pendse, B.A., the Assistant to the Ministers, Revenue Section, who worked on the post of the Assistant to the Ministers, Revenue Section. As he was transferred to the Prince's school from 17th June 1925, his post was occupied by Mr. Mane Patil, B.A., LL.B. Mr. R. V. Desai, M.A., continued to work on the post of Assistant to the Ministers, Judicial Section.

Work done by the Huzur Central Office.

7. The Huzur Central Office received from the departments 3,273 cases, out of which 2,886 were disposed of leaving a balance of 387 at the end of the year. It also disposed of 13,955 miscellaneous references and 1,588 applications.

(b) THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

Composition.

8. With the Dewan, Sir Manubhai as President, and Shrimant Dewan Bahadur Ganpatrao Gaekwad as the First Councillor, the Council had in all four members at the end of the year, R. B. Govindbhai H. Desai and R. B. G. B. Ambegaokar being the other two members.

Council Secretary.

9. The Assistants to the Ministers, responsible for their Sections, continued to work as Secretaries to the Council for cases falling under their respective Sections.

Work of the Council.

10. The Council held 27 meetings as against 25 in the previous year. The total number of cases coming up for consideration by the Council for the year was 1,075 against 1,218 of the previous year. Of these, 1,000 were disposed of, leaving a balance of 75 as against 76 of the previous year. Out of the matters disposed of, 898 cases were dealt with by the Council, within its own powers, 3 were disposed of under powers delegated by His Highness the Maharaja Saheb, and 99 were submitted to His Highness with opinion of the Council. 1 case was referred back by His Highness to the Council for disposal as against 4 of previous year. All the regular official cases going to His Highness for decision have to be considered by the Council and with its opinion recorded thereon, the cases are forwarded to the Huzur Kamdar's office which submits them to His Highness.

(c) THE HUZUR KAMDAR.

Personnel.

11. Rao Bahadur G.B. Ambegaokar, B.A., LL.B., continued to be the Huzur Kamdar throughout the whole year. In addition to this, he worked as Naib Dewan and a member of the State Executive Council and also of the State Legislative Council.

The charge of the Assistant Huzur Kamdar's post was held by Mr. V. G. Pendse, B.A., and by Mr. V. G. Modi, B.A., LL.B., during the time Mr. Pendse worked as Assistant to the Ministers, Inspection Branch.

12. Mr. Trimbak Ramchandra Kotwal, B.A., LL.B., retired Small Causes Judge of Ahmedabad, was taken into Baroda state service and attached to the Huzur Kamdar's Office as an extra officer. He worked also as a member of the State Executive Council as well as of the State Legislative Council. Mr. Kotwal was being trained up in several branches of administration, and was subsequently appointed as Legal Remembrancer. But before he could take over the charge, his very sad and sudden demise put an end to his services.

Extra officers.

Mr. B. V. Desai, M.A., LL.B., continued to work as Chief Officer with His Highness the Maharaja Saheb in Europe.

(d) THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

13. The Legislative Council, called the Dhara Sabha, is composed of 27 members, including the President of the Assembly—the Dewan. The membership is distributed as under :—

Legislative Council.

The President	1
Ex-Officio Members	5
Non-Official nominated Members ...	4
Official nominated Members	7
Elected Members	10
	27

14. There were two sessions of the Dhara Sabha during the year. The first session was held on the 16th October 1924 when 21 members were present. Among the several Bills that were introduced for discussion, the Press and Registration of Books Bill was of importance. The chief point of controversy was the condition of obtaining a license before starting any Press or Periodical. The majority of members was in favour of doing away with this restriction. The other Bills—namely—the Sea Custom Bill and the Ferries Bill were

Work done.

referred to a Select Committee. The second sitting was held on the 26th March 1925, when 22 members were present. In this session the following five important Bills were introduced for discussion :—

1. Registration of Births and Deaths Bills.
2. Criminal Procedure Code Bill.
3. Bill to amend the Arbitration Act.
4. Ferries Bill.
5. City Improvement and Town Planning Bill.

Out of these Bills, Nos. 1, 4, 5 were finally passed in the Dhara Sabha while No. 2 and 3 were referred to Select Committees for detailed consideration. A special sessions was held for discussing the State Budget. The Presidential addresses are given in Appendix 3.

(e) THE KHATA NIHAYA SADAR ADALAT.

Duties of the Adalat.

15. The Khata Nihaya Sadar Adalat is the highest Departmental tribunal for disposing of appeals and revision applications against the decisions of Heads of Departments, Ministers and the Honourable Council.

Functions of the Adalat.

16. The Adalat disposes of cases in its own jurisdiction when appeals and revision applications are to be disallowed, but in cases where they are to be allowed, it submits them to the Huzur for final orders with its recommendations. During the year there were two Benches—one was composed of Shrimant Ganpatrao Gaekwad and the Nyaya Mantri and the other was composed of the Nyaya Mantri and Mr. R. R. Kothawala, a retired Suba of the State. The following table shows the work done by the Adalat in the years 1923–24 and 1924 25:—

Year.	Arrears in the beginning of the year.	New appeals.	Total.	Appeals disposed of.	Arrears at the end of the year.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1923–24	112	219	331	255	76
1924–25	76	204	280	214	66

17. During the year 45 appeals were submitted to the Huzur with the opinion of the bench and there were 4 appeals of the preceding year in balance thus making a total of 49 appeals. Out of this total of 49, 41 appeals were disposed of by the Huzur, leaving a balance of 8 as undisposed of. In 36 appeals the recommendations of the Adalat were approved of and sanctioned.

Work done.

18. During the year, under instructions from Naib Dewan Rao Bahadur Govindbhai H. Desai, Rules for the conduct of Huzur Departmental Appeals were revised and they have received the sanction of the Hon'ble Council and the revised Rules are being published for general information.

Revising and recasting Rules of Departmental Appeals.

19. During the year, this office was inspected by the Huzur Inspecting Officer Rao Bahadur Govindbhai H. Desai and steps have been taken to give effect to the orders passed thereon.

Inspection by Huzur Tapasani Officer.

(f) THE HUZUR NYAYA SABHA.

20. The Varisht Court is the highest tribunal in the State in judicial matters; but provision has been made for the admission of appeals and applications against its decisions before the Huzur Nyaya Sabha, subject to certain conditions. The Huzur Nyaya Sabha, which advises His Highness in the exercise of the appellate and revisional jurisdiction, is composed of the Legal Remembrancer, a Judge of the Varisht Court not connected with the case under consideration and the Huzur Kamdar; but when the functions of the Huzur Kamdar and the Legal Remembrancer are entrusted to one person, one of the Naib Dewans or some one of the retired Judges of the Varisht Court is utilised for the purpose. His Highness the Maharaja Saheb has been pleased to order that Messrs. Gokhale and Sarabhai—two retired Judges of the Varisht Court—should be invited according to the

The Huzur Nyaya Sabha and its work.

exigency of the occasion. The Huzur Nyaya Sabha holds its sessions four times in the year and continues to work until the cases on hand are disposed of; but for special reasons, special sessions are also held.

The following table will show the work done by the Nyaya Sabha for the years 1923-1924 and 1924-25:—

Nature of cases.	Arrears of the last year.		New files.		Disposed of during the year.		Pending at the end of the year.	
	1923-24.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1924-25,
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Appeals:—								
(a) Civil ...	48	54	27	40	21	42	54	52
(b) Criminal...	9	4	20	16	25	14	4	6
Extra-ordinary applications.—								
(a) Civil ...	17	12	44	30	49	25	12	17
(b) Criminal...	4	5	25	35	24	33	5	7
Total...	78	75	116	121	119	114	75	82

The arrears of Civil Appeals at the end of the year amounted to 52 as compared with 54 of the last year. Out of the 52 Civil Appeals, 18 were pending service of summons, 17 were ready for hearing, 2 were pending opinions, 4 were under submission to the Huzur, 3 were pending orders from the Huzur and 8 were under print. As regards Criminal Appeals, 5 were pending service of summons and 1 was ready for hearing. 24 extra-ordinary applications remained undisposed of as parties had applied for postponement from time to time.

(g) Auction Committee.

Constitution of the Auction Committee.

21. The Auction Committee consists of one Naib Dewan as its President, one member from the Sardar or Assamdar class, the Head of the Department at whose instance the auction is being held and also the Assistant of that Department,

22. The Committee has the powers to confirm the final bids in the auction relating to any Department in the City of Baroda, upto the value of Rs. 15,000 in the case of immoveable property and Rs. 1,00,000 in the case of moveable property.

Powers of the Committee.

23. During the year, the Committee held auctions in 67 cases. The main auctions related to the Military, Public Works and Khangi departments.

Work done.

24 As a rule, the highest bid or the lowest tender is accepted at the auction but in some cases if the Committee is convinced that the highest bidder would not be able to fulfil the contract, the Committee uses its discretion and sanctions the tender of the next reliable bidder. In 9 cases out of the 67, the highest bidder had to be set aside during the year.

Procedure of work.

C The Palace.

25. His Highness the Maharaja Saheb was to have returned to India in November 1924; but owing to medical advice he had to prolong his stay in Europe for the recuperation of health by consolidation of the progress made. He is still there and is expected to return with renewed vigour by about the end of November.

His Highness' XV Europe trip.

26. The State offices were closed for one day on the 8th June 1925 owing to sad demise of His Highness the Maharaja Scindia of Gwalior which took place at Paris on 5th June 1925. His Highness the Maharaja Saheb was personally attending on him during his sickness and also had attended the funeral.

State mourning and closing of offices.

27. Her Highness the Maharani Saheb started for Abu on 18th October 1924 and stayed there for nearly three weeks. On the return journey, Her Highness visited Palanpur, Ambaji, Ajmere, Udepur, Jaipur, Muttra and other notable places.

Her Highness' trips.

Her Highness left Baroda for Ooty in the first week of April 1925 and stayed there till the end of the official year.

Visits.

28. During the year, Her Highness Nawab Sultan Jahan Begum Saheb of Bhopal with Prince Major Nawab Jada Haji Mohomed Hamidulla Khan Saheb Bahadur visited Baroda on 31st January 1925. Her Highness the Begum Saheb left Baroda on 6th February 1925 and the Prince departed five days later.

Her Highness the Maharani Saheb of Cooch Behar with her children visited Baroda and stayed in L. V. Palace from 1st February 1925 to 3rd April 1925.

Formal Courtesies.

29. The formal courtesies of presentation either in the form of money or of "Poshakhs" and "Aher Bahuman" were extended to the following:—

1. A Poshakh worth Rs. 10,000 was presented to Her Highness Nawab Sultan Jahan Begum Saheb of Bhopal, Nawab Jada Haji Mohomed Hamidulla Khan Saheb and their retinue on the occasion of Her Highness the Begum Saheb's visit to Baroda.

2. A Poshakh worth Rs. 315 was given to the deputation from Her Highness the Maharani Saheb of Kolhapur on the occasion of Shree Mangla-gauri Vrata ceremony on 30-8-1924.

3. A Poshakh worth Rs. 1,000 was sent with Maharaj Kumar Pratapsinh Raje as a present to the Raja Saheb of Savantwadi on the occasion of his accession ceremony on 29-10-1924 but the same was not accepted.

4. Her Highness the Maharani Saheb of Cooch-Behar was presented with a Poshakh worth Rs. 295 on the occasion of Her Highness' birth day on 14-2-1925.

5. A Poshakh worth Rs. 17,087-2-3 was presented to Shrimant Vimalaraje on the occasion of the Barsha ceremony of her son and daughter.

6. A Poshakh worth Rs. 3,685 was presented to Her Highness the Maharani Saheb of Cooch-Behar on the occasion of Her Highness' departure on 3-4-1925.

30. Andolan and Namkaran ceremony of the son and daughter of Maharaj Kumar Dhairyashilrao Bhausaheb was performed in the Laxmi Vilas Palace on 19-2-1925 and they were named " Ashokraje " and " Usharaje ".

Notable incidents.

31. His Highness the Maharaja of Gwalior having died at Paris on 5-6-1925, Shrimant Vishvasrao Bajirao Ghadge was deputed to Gwalior on behalf of the State for conveying condolences to Her Highness the Maharani Saheb (Senior) of Gwalior on 12-6-1925.

Condolence.

D. Relations with the British Government and the Indian States.

32. The relations of His Highness' Government with the British Government and the neighbouring and other Indian States were conducted by the Minister through the Huzur Political Office and continued to be cordial and satisfactory as usual.

General.

33. The British Postal authorities continued to receive the requisite facilities to enable them to provide additional Post Offices and letter boxes in different parts of the State. The total number of Post Offices and letter boxes at the close of the official year was 1,050 (268 plus 782) as against 1,041 (261 plus 780) at the end of the previous year.

Postal Arrangements.

34. Arrangements relating to the mutual extradition of criminals from and to British India and the Indian States as also those relating to co-operation in Police matters with them continued to work satisfactorily as hitherto.

Extradition and Police matters.

35. The Government of India proposed to issue an All-India Statistical Memorandum dealing with the area and out-turn of the castor seed crop, about the 20th of February in each year. They inquired if His Highness' Government would issue their forecast not later

Compilation and publication of an All-India Memorandum.

than the 10th February and send copies to the Director General, Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta, in time to reach him by the 15th February annually to enable him to include the Baroda returns in the All-India Memorandum. His Highness' Government agreed to supply the required copies as requested.

Transport of Cotton from one protected area to another.

36. Co-ordinating notifications under the British and Baroda Cotton Transport Acts were issued both by the British and Baroda Governments under which any permission or license granted for the transport of Cotton from one protected area to another under the British Act is regarded as if it were granted under the Baroda Act and *vice versa*.

Cess on cotton in aid of Central Cotton Committee.

37. The Resident intimated that the Government of India decided not to seek the co-operation of Indian States in the imposition of a cess on cotton for the purpose of raising funds required to meet the expenses of the Indian Central Cotton Committee and in particular the cost of the technological and agricultural researches on cotton.

Smuggling of contraband goods from the Ports of Cutch and other places into British India and Baroda.

38. It was discovered that extensive smuggling of contraband goods chiefly matches was going on apparently between certain ports in Cutch and elsewhere on the one hand and British India and Baroda on the other. On a motion from the British Government, His Highness' Government, therefore, agreed to levy on all such consignments, on their entering Baroda territory, a duty equal to the difference between the tariff duty leviable thereon at the British Indian Ports and that already levied on them at the ports of the Cutch State.

Assimilation of selling prices of country liquor at the shops on the borders of Chhota Udepur and Jambughoda.

39. At the Excise Conference held in Bombay in June 1921, it was settled that the selling prices of country liquor at all the border shops of the Sankheda Taluka, including those on the borders of the Chhota Udepur and Jambughoda States should be raised to Rs. 5-4-0 and Rs. 2-10-0

per gallon of 25° and 60° U. P. respectively, on the express condition that the said two States would arrange to keep the same prices at their border shops. It was, however, subsequently found that neither of these States raised the prices at their border shops in the vicinity as settled at the conference but that they continued to allow liquor to be sold there at Rs. 5 and Rs 2-8-0 respectively per gallon of 25° and 60° U. P. strength. His Highness' Government, therefore, gave orders to reduce the selling prices at their border shops concerned, whereupon the Chhota Udepur State further reduced the prices prevailing at its border shops. The question was, therefore, referred to the authorities concerned, through the Residency, and it was ultimately settled that the selling prices of country liquor at the shops on the frontiers of the three States should be assimilated and fixed at Rs. 4-2-0 and Rs. 2-1-0 per gallon of 25° and 60° U. P. respectively.

Conservancy and other arrangements in the Residency Compound.

40. The Baroda City Municipality having raised the question of the revision of the charges paid by the Residency on account of the conservancy, lighting and other arrangements in the Residency compound, it was settled that a payment of Rs. 900 per annum should be accepted for conservancy and other services to be rendered by the Municipality, excluding road-watering and lighting work, for which the Residency were to make their own arrangements.

Changes in the Bombay Baroda Boundary Convention.

41. The British and Baroda Delegates jointly proposed two modifications in paragraph 5 of the Bombay Baroda Boundary Convention. One related to the question of adjudication of proprietory rights in trees lying on the boundary line and the other to surveying of the frontier. As regards the first matter, the delegates experienced difficulty in carrying out the terms of the Convention as sometimes the parties interested did not attend to prove their claims. It was, therefore, proposed by the delegates that a statement of trees on the border line should be

supplied to the local officers who should collect the necessary evidence by holding a joint meeting and return the statement with the evidence and their opinion to the delegates within three months of the receipt of the statement. The delegates would then give their decision at a joint meeting. The powers of the delegates were not, however, to be restricted in any way in respect of cases in which the parties appeared before them.

Regarding the survey of the frontier, it was proposed that the surveyors should carry out the survey before, instead of after confirmation of the frontier by the delegates and that the delegates should consult the papers of both sides and visit the disputed places, if necessary. The above proposals to amend paragraph 5 of the Convention were approved of by the Bombay and the Baroda Government.

The delegates also proposed an addition to para 3 (1) of Annexure 'A' to the Convention to the effect that the State or Government within the limits of which the person cultivating the land in dispute resides should realise the demand of the State or Government in favour of which the dispute is decided. This proposal was also approved of by the Bombay and Baroda Governments.

It was further agreed that the village officers of both the Governments should make a joint inspection of the border line and the boundary marks once a year and should take action to repair boundary marks where necessary.

Reports on the state of village letter boxes.

42. The Post Master General, Bombay, having requested that the local Revenue officers may be asked to furnish to the Superintendent of Post Offices by the middle of January each year information regarding the state of the village letter boxes, the necessary instructions to furnish the information were issued in the matter to the State officers concerned.

Request of the Palanpur Durbar for the remission of tribute for the year 1923-24.

43. The Palanpur Durbar having requested for a remission of the tribute payable by them to His Highness' Government for the year 1923-24 being granted to them, the views of His Highness' Government were invited on the subject. On the same being communicated, the application of the Palanpur Durbar was rejected and the amount of the tribute in question was recovered in due course.

Palanpur Durbar's appeal for the remission of their tribute for St. year 1972 rejected.

44. The Government of India similarly rejected the appeal of the Palanpur Durbar against the orders of the Government of Bombay on their representation declining the remission of the tribute payable to His Highness' Government for the Samvat year 1972.

Izara for plying boats between Chandod and Tilakwada.

45. The arrangement arrived at in 1920 with the estate of Mandwa regarding the joint Izara to ply boats between Chandod and Tilakwada was continued for a further period of two years.

Reciprocal arrangement with Bikanir for free and direct service of interrogatories and Civil and Revenue summonses and notices.

46. A reciprocal arrangement was arrived at in 1919, as a tentative measure for five years, for free and direct service of interrogatories and Civil and Revenue summonses and notices, with the Bikanir State. This arrangement was made permanent during the year under report.

Reciprocal arrangement with Indore for execution of commissions in civil cases.

47. A reciprocal arrangement was arrived at with the Indore State for the execution of Commissions in civil cases on the lines of the procedure obtaining as between the Courts of the Baroda Government and those of the Bombay Presidency, with the proviso that if any interrogatories had to be sent along with a commission the same should be accompanied by their translation in English.

Relief from double Income Tax.

48. A reciprocal arrangement was arrived at with the British Government as a tentative measure for three years for relief from double Income Tax on incomes taxed both in British India and in Baroda State It lays down that the total relief to be given should be equivalent to the tax at the lower of the two rates at which it is imposed, (at present the Baroda rate) and that the two Governments should each give a rebate of half of this lower rate.

Proposed amendment of Sec. 45 of the British Indian Civil Procedure Code.

49. The Resident forwarded a copy of a summary regarding the question of the execution by the Indian State Courts of decrees of British Indian Courts which was considered by the Standing Committee of the Chamber of Princes and invited the views of His Highness' Government in regard to (1) the proposed amendment of Sec. 45 of the British Indian Code of Civil Procedure, (2) the point as to how the existing arrangement for execution of decrees of British Indian Courts had worked in practice, and whether it had been attended with any inconvenience to the State Courts and hardships to their subjects and (3) the question of the powers to be exercised by the State Courts if the proposed amendment was made. His Highness' Government replied that they had no objection to legislative sanction being given to the existing practice in this behalf; that the reciprocal arrangement for the execution of decrees between the Baroda State and British India had worked satisfactorily so far and that the practice did not appear to have been attended with any inconvenience to the State Courts or hardships to the State subjects; that the powers exercised by the Baroda Courts in executing British Indian decrees were the same as they would exercise in the case of their own decrees and that the Rules framed under the Local Civil Procedure Code laid down the procedure to be observed by the State Courts in this respect; that difficulties only arose when *ex parte* decrees of British Indian Courts were to be executed, because then the State Courts had to see whether the British Courts passing the decrees in question had jurisdiction over the defendant or not; and that the procedure in this regard was analogous

to that obtaining in British India in the matter of the execution of decrees of Baroda Civil Courts. It was pointed out that the reciprocal arrangement with this State was with regard to the execution of decrees of Civil Courts only, there being no such arrangement in respect of decrees of Revenue Courts.

Plying of vehicles on the Agas–Borsad Road.

50. The system of issuing mutual licenses was adopted as a tentative measure for five years in respect of the plying of vehicles on the Agas–Borsad Road. Under this system licenses issued by the Baroda authorities to their subjects for plying vehicles on this road will be respected by the British authorities and vice versa.

Refund of the Super Tax collected on the dividend payable in respect of the shares held by H. H. the Maharaja Saheb in the Tapti Valley Railway Co., Ltd.

51. Messrs. Killick Nixon & Co., Agents, Tapti Valley Railway Co., Ltd., deducted, at the instance of the Income Tax authorities at Bombay, Rs. 50,991-4-0 on account of Super Tax, from the amount of dividend payable in respect of the shares held by His Highness the Maharaja Saheb in the said concern. As the Government of India, had however, waived their demand in respect of Super Tax on the Income derived by Ruling Princes in British India, the Income Tax authorities at Bombay were requested to refund the amount so deducted by Messrs. Killick Nixon & Co. The Commissioner of Income Tax, Bombay Presidency, thereupon instructed the said Company to pay to His Highness' Government the full amount of dividend without any deduction therefrom on account of Super Tax in respect of the shares in question.

Rao Bahadur B. A. Ghatge exempted from the operation of Secs. 13 to 15 of the Indian Arms Act.

52. At the instance of His Highness' Government the Resident, under clause 2 (v) of Schedule I of the Indian Arms Rules, 1924, designated Rao Bahadur Bajirao A. Ghatge, Police Commissioner of the Baroda State, as exempt from the operation of all prohibitions and directions contained in Sections 13 to 15 of the Indian Arms Act, 1878.

53. The Hon. the Agent to the Governor-General in the States of Western India conveyed his appreciation of the manner in which the Baroda Police rendered assistance to the Agency Police and of the system of espionage adopted by the State Police Commissioner which assisted to a great extent the efforts of the informers employed by the Agency Police in bringing about the destruction of the notorious outlaw, Toga Sarman of Matra.

Appreciation of the assistance rendered by the State Police and of the system of espionage adopted by the State Police Commissioner.

54. No separate ward for the prisoners suffering from leprosy is maintained in the Baroda Central Jail as their number is generally very small. To prevent the spread of the disease through contagion among the rest of the Jail population, the Government of Bombay were requested to admit leper prisoners of the Baroda State to the Yerwada Central Jail, Poona, where there is an isolated ward for such prisoners. The Government of Bombay kindly acceded to this proposal and His Highness' Government agreed to defray the expenses of these prisoners in accordance with the scale sanctioned for the Yerwada Central Jail.

Arrangement to send leper prisoners from the Baroda Central Jail to the Yer wada Central Jail.

55. The old practice of direct correspondence between the District Traffic Superintendents and the State Police Naib Subas in matters relating to the verification rolls of railway menials was revived.

Verification rolls of Railway menials.

56. His Highness' Government being desirous of opening a centre for Anti-rabic treatment at Baroda, the Government of Bombay were requested to authorise their Surgeon General to supply Anti-rabic vaccine to the Chief Medical Officer, Baroda, for the purpose and they were good enough to accede to the request of His Highness' Government in the matter.

Centre for Anti-rabic treatment at Baroda.

57. At the request of His Highness' Government, the Royal Indian Marine, Bombay, carried out the Marine Survey of the Beyt (Okha) Harbour and supplied His

Marine Survey of the Beyt (Okha) Harbour.

Highness' Government with copies of the 'Surveys'. The cost of this Marine Survey came to Rs. 90,851-12-5, which amount was remitted by His Highness' Government to the authorities concerned through the Residency.

Rent for lands leased within Railway limits for non-railway purposes.

58. His Highness' Government having again raised the question as to whether rents realised on account of Bulk-oil, Salt and Timber depôts erected on the lands ceded by them for railway purposes, the Government of India decided that the B. B. & C. I. Railway administration were not entitled to retain the rent for lands leased within Railway limits in the Baroda State for such depôts and that all such rents should be paid to His Highness' Government. Steps are being taken to recover the amounts realised by the B. B. & C. I. Railway authorities on this account.

Royalty levied from B. B. & C. I. Railway on materials taken away from the Songadh quarries.

59. The B. B. & C. I. Railway authorities were taking out materials from the Fort Songadh quarries without giving previous intimation to the local revenue officials concerned. Difficulties, therefore, arose in calculating the amount of royalty leviable from them. It was, therefore, settled that the Railway officer concerned should give intimation some time in advance to the Talati of the village when waggons were to be loaded to enable him to keep a note of the quantity loaded and the amount of royalty due. It was also settled that the payment might be made at the close of the official year instead of immediately as required under the rules.

Application of the provisions of the State Stamp Act to transactions taking place within the limits of the Railways, jurisdiction on which vests in His Highness' Government.

60. It was noticed that receipts passed by parties receiving payment of over Rs. 20 within the limits of the Railways of the Baroda State worked by the B. B. & C. I. Railway over which jurisdiction vested in His Highness' Government as well as documents evidencing other transactions executed within the limits of the

said Railways did not bear the appropriate stamps prescribed in the State Stamp Act. On this irregularity being pointed out to the Agent, B. B. & C. I. Railway, he issued necessary instructions in the matter to his subordinates concerned to enforce the provisions of the State Stamp Act in all such matters.

Meeting of the Indian Historical Records Commission.

·61. The Government of India having invited His Highness' Government to send a representative to serve as a co-opted member at the meeting of the Indian Historical Records Commission held at Poona on the 12th and 13th January 1925, Mr. R. K. Ranadive, M.A., was deputed for the purpose. In view of the great importance attached to the meeting at Poona, they also sent Prof. J. M. Mehta and G. S. Sardesai to attend the same.

Passports for Foreign travel.

62. Forty-seven applications from Baroda subjects for passports for travel in foreign countries were received and attended to during the year under report. Of these, 26 were from the Baroda district, 10 from Kadi, 5 from Navsari and 6 from Amreli. The flow of emigrants from Baroda, Kadi and Amreli districts was mainly to East Africa, whereas from the Navsari district was towards South Africa. A majority of the emigrants, viz. 79 per cent., was Hindus.

Visit of H. M. the Queen mother of Nepal to Dwarka.

63. Her Majesty the Queen mother of Nepal visited Dwarka on a pilgrimage. Arrangements were made to give Her Majesty all facilities at Dwarka and other places of pilgrimage in Okhamandal and to show her every courtesy due to her rank.

Thanks.

64. The acknowledgments of His Highness' Government are due to—

(a) the Government of India for their kindly making the services of Mr. Mohini Kant Ghatak of the Indian Audit and Accounts service available for duty as Financial Adviser to the State, and

(b) the Government of Bombay

(i) for permitting Mr. William C. Dooris, Executive Engineer in charge of Boring Works, Nasik, to make occasional visits to Okhamandal for the purpose of inspecting boring works and advising His Highness' Government in regard to them; and

(ii) for affording requisite facilities to Mr. G. K. Dandekar, the State Legal Remembrancer, to study the working of the system obtaining in the office of the Legal Remembrancer to the Government of Bombay in regard to the litigation against Government or relating to their interests, and to study the working of the Bombay Town Planning Act.

65. The under-mentioned important political cases were dealt with during the year:—

Important cases.

1. Additions and alterations at Vishwamitri in connection with the broad-gauge siding from Vishwamitri to Goya Gate.

2. Claim of His Highness' Government to levy a local cess on a Wadi belonging to the Lathi State in the village of Memda in Baroda territory.

3. Deputation of two State officers to Bombay and Madras to receive training in harbour management.

4. Procedure for the acquisition of guaranteed lands situated in Baroda territory for public purposes.

5. Publication of the Rain-fall data of the State.

6. Removal of the rocky obstructions in the river Tapti in the limits of the Mandvi Taluka of the Surat district for the purpose of facilitating transport of Baroda forest produce.

7. Boundary dispute between Gutal (Baroda) and Vithoj (British).
8. Facilities to be given to Mr. A. N. Dixit, B.A., to pick up the details of Traffic management and other kindred problems of practical Railway Administration in England.
9. Procedure in respect of requisitions for search of Mudamal.
10. Reciprocal arrangement between the Bombay and Baroda Governments for the payment of the pensions due to their respective pensioners.
11. Revision of the Rules for alienation inquiry in guaranteed Wantas.
12. Connection of the Telephone exchange system of the Baroda State by a junction line to the Public Trunk Call office at Baroda.
13. The rivarian rights of Baroda and Junagadh on the river Surmat.
14. Excise arrangement relating to border shops.
15. Ports and Salt rights of the Baroda State.
16. Export of Okhamandal Salt to Calcutta.
17. Free transhipment of dutiable goods received from abroad from Bombay to the ports of this State in Kathiawar.

E. Administration of Okhamandal.

Personnel.

66. The post of Commissioner and Commandant Okha Battalion was held by Col. Kumar Shiv Raj Singh, B.A., from 1st August 1924 to 19th July 1925 and thereafter by Mr. Nanasaheb S Shinde, Bar-at-law, till the close of the year. Capt. L. H. Acquino held the post of Adjutant, Okha Battalion and Police Naib Suba throughout the year.

Relations with the neighbouring foreign authorities.

67. The relations of the Okhamandal authorities with the neighbouring States of Porebundar, Nawanagar and Cutch continued to be cordial and the Police of these States gave effective co-operation to the State

Police in the detection of crime. Extradition of one person in one case was obtained from Navanagar. There was no case of extradition from Okhamandal to any of these States.

Protection. (Criminal Justice).

68. The out-post Thanas of the Okha Battalion continued to take part in preserving peace and order in the district. The Police also were alive to the sense of their duty and crime was assailed as before in a regular and organised manner. The number of cases reported to and taken up by the Police during the year was 37; out of these, 16 ended in conviction, 6 in acquittal or discharge, 6 were on the dormant file, 1 was struck off, 4 were compounded, 1 was under disposal by the Magistrate and 3 cases were under investigation by the Police at the close of the year.

Criminal cases against Waghers.

69. During the year, 12 cases in which 17 Waghers were involved were tried by the 1st Class Magistrate, Okhamandal, as against 9 cases in which 13 persons were involved in the preceding year. Of the 17 Waghers, 7 were convicted and 10 were either discharged or acquitted. No case was sent up to the Commissioner by the 1st Class Magistrate, for enhancement of punishment. There was only one appeal against the decision of the 1st Class Magistrate, to the Commissioner's Court. The Commissioner tried no Sessions case in which any Wagher was involved

Roll-call.

70. Thirty-one Waghers of good character were exempted from attendance at the daily roll-call, while 5 new suspicious characters were required to attend the roll-call; two Waghers liable to attend the roll-call died during the year under report. The total number liable to attend the daily roll-call at the close of the year was 55.

Wagher Patels and Revenue work.

71. The six Wagher Patels who were entrusted with the Revenue Patel's work last year in addition to their own Police Patel's work continued to do the Revenue Patel's work this year also. All of them worked satisfactorily. They were paid Rs. 2 extra for this additional work.

72. Okhamandal has suffered from a succession of bad years. The present year was the fourth unpropitious year in succession. In the beginning of the year, the rainfall was very seasonable and high hopes were entertained by the people of an excellent harvest. But unfortunately the later rains failed and agricultural prospects became dismal. Famine had to be declared in the district and the following measures were taken to relieve distress in the famine stricken area:—

Agricultural conditions.

1. All recoveries of the Government land assessment as well as Local Cess were suspended.
2. The import duties on grass and cotton seeds were excused as also the forest fees on the "Cheer".
3. The execution of the decrees issued by the Diwani Court on the Khatedars was suspended.
4. A sum of Rs. 35,000 was sanctioned for relief measures as Tagavi for grass, Kos, Varat, building bunds round the fields, etc. As a special case, this Tagavi was advanced free of interest.
5. Seven lakh pounds of grass was imported from Dhari Taluka under Armeli district and sold at concession rates to the cultivators of the district. Even this quantity would not have been sufficient but early in the year some people seeing that the monsoon had failed went away with their cattle to Ghatwar in Amreli district. These people were allowed free grazing and free wood for their use in that district.
6. The fines imposed under the Compulsory Education Act were excused, and the recovery of arrears of the last year was suspended.

Many persons were without employment as the Cement Factory which provided work for hundreds was at a standstill. Some people residing on the coast line earned their livelihood by working on the Harbour Works at Adatra and at the

Pearl Fishery Works. There were no cases of actual starvation. Cases of persons requiring gratuitous relief were few and the needs of all such persons were met from the Famine Relief Fund.

Number of Wagher Khatedars.

73. The following comparative statement shows the number of Wagher Khatedars holding land in Okhamandal :—

Class of Khatedars.	No. at the close of 1923-24.	No. at the close of 1924-25.
1. Khatedars holding Salami lands...	695	693
2. Khatedars holding land on full assessment	230	227
3. Khatedars holding both Salami land and land on full assessment...	236	227
4. Khatedars holding 'Kiraya' land...	337	335
Total...	1,498	1,482

74. The following comparative statement shows the extent of land in Bighas under cultivation by the Waghers :—

	Salami land.	Full assessment land.	Total.
1. Land in the occupancy of the Waghers at the beginning of the year 1924-25	27,061-15	8,970-15	36,032-10
2. Land taken up during 1924-25	164—5	314-12	478-17
3. Land relinquished or resumed during 1924-25...	132—9	26—5	158-14
4. Land in occupancy at the close of the year 1924-25...	27,093-11	9,259—2	36,352-13

75. The recovery of land revenue and arrears during the year was as under :—

Recovery of land revenue.

	Amount.	Recovery in 1924-25.	Balance at the close of 1924-25.
1. Arrears at the close of 1923-24	48,969- 2-0	4,299- 0-8	44,670-1-4
2. Amount due for 1924-25...	19,116-15-4	3,065-13-4	16,051-2-0
3. Total due to Government...	68,086- 1-4	7,364-14-0	64,721-3-4

N. B.—This being a famine year, His Highness' Government were pleased to write off Rs. 6,566-3-9; so, out of Rs. 7,364-14-0, only Rs. 798-10-3 were recovered in cash.

Experiments in Forestry.

76. For the last five or six years the Forest Department have maintained a small establishment in Okhamandal. Attempts are being made by this establishment to grow forest trees in some selected areas in the district. But want of protection for young plants from the strong western winds which blight all growth and the precarious seasons are a great handicap to the success of these attempts.

Wagher Savings Fund.

77. The Compulsory Savings Fund which was started four years ago has proved a great help to the Waghers. During the year Rs. 762-7-7 were added to this Fund. This being a famine year, Rs. 472-13-0 were advanced from the fund to Waghers as loans for purchasing seeds, fodder and grass. At the end of the year the fund amounted to Rs. 3,225-2-6. The Waghers appreciate this measure and contribute to this fund according to their means. Owing, however, to the successive bad seasons they are unable to increase the fund appreciably.

Marriage and other family disputes.

78. During the year, 29 cases of marriages and betrothals among the Waghers were registered in the Commissioner's office.

The Wagher Panchayat received five applications for settling ordinary disputes among Waghers. They disposed of all of them during the year.

On the whole, the system of the Wagher Panchayat has worked satisfactorily and is looked upon with favour by the Waghers.

Education.

79. The Wagher Boarding House started in 1920 is working satisfactorily. The total number of students at the end of the year was 23. The boys attend the ordinary schools and are doing well in their studies. Three of them headed the list of successful students in their respective classes, and were awarded merit prizes. The boys in the carpentry and smithy class are also working fairly well. Many of them can prepare agricultural and ordinary household implements by themselves. The Workshop turns out nice furniture. A few of the students also attend the weaving class opened at Dwarka and their progress is also reported to be good. The health of the boys was good throughout the year.

Health.

80. There was no epidemic in the district during any part of the year and the general health of the people was fairly good. The dispensaries maintained by Government were largely availed of by the public. The travelling dispensary is working well as usual, but the Waghers do not seem to resort to it in cases of ordinary illness.

Okha Battalion.

81. During the year, no change was made in the strength of the Okha Battlion. The cost of maintaining the battalion was as under:-

		Rs. a. p.
Pay, Compensation and allowance	...	1,04,839-2-4
Gratuity to men invalided ...	...	2,136-0-0
Disbursement of pensions ...	...	2,848-0-9
Travelling allowances, &c. ...	...	125-4-6
Total	...	1,09,948-7-7

The battalion furnished 17 Thanas in the district consisting of 20 non-commissioned officers and 58 men. No change was made in the location of the Thanas. The duty of maintaining order in the district which is to a great extent in the hands of these Regimental out-posts was carried out efficiently during the year. The casualties in the regiment were as follows :—

Deserters	10
Deceased	2
Retired on pension	5
Dismissed	3

The total number of recruits enlisted was 33. There was no vacancy in the battalion at the close of the year. A school is specially maintained for the education of the men of the regiment and their children. English, Marathi, Gujarati and Hindi are taught therein more or less according to the curriculum adopted in the ordinary schools of the State. The total number of persons on the register at the end of the year was 142, and the daily average attendance was 93·73. The annual examinations were held in May 1925 and out of 33 candidates who appeared thereat, 27 were successful.

The health of the regiment continued to be good. There were no epidemics during any part of the year. All the children residing in the lines who had not been vaccinated before, were vaccinated. The discipline of the regiment continued to be good and the conduct of the men was satisfactory. Three hundred and twenty seven men of all ranks were put through the musketry course. The average points per man were 40·22.

The quarters of the regimental men underwent some improvements during the year.

Observatory and Light-houses.

82. The Observatory at Dwarka worked satisfactorily. Petty repairs were done to it in the year. Both the Dwarka and Samiani Light-houses exhibited proper lights.

Resident's visit.

83. Mr. E. H. Kealy, I.C.S., Resident at Baroda, visited Okhamandal during the year. He arrived at Dwarka on 10th March 1925 and left for Baroda on the 13th Idem.

Other visitors.

84. Among the distinguished personages who visited Dwarka during the year were Her Majesty the Queen mother of Nepal, and the Rani Saheb of Nandgaon.

Administrative arrangements satisfactory.

85. The new arrangements in Okhamandal relating to the Waghers and the Okha battalion are thus working satisfactorily.

CHAPTER II.

PROTECTION.

A. The Army.

Personnel.

86. General N. G. Shinde was in command as General Officer commanding the Baroda State Forces, exercising the powers of the Senapati. Colonel K. N. Savant was in command of the Cavalry and Artillery Brigade and also worked as Adjutant General. Major B. R. Savant was in charge of the Infantry Brigade and worked also as Quarter Master General. Captain V. G. Powar held the post of the Military Secretary till the 21st September 1924 when he was relieved by Captain A. G. Sadekar Powar who held the charge of this office during the year.

Strength of the Regular Force.

87. The actual strength of the Regular Force at the close of the year as compared with its fixed strength was as follows:—

Description of Force.	Fixed Strength.			Actual Strength.			Remarks.
	Effectives.	Non-effectives.	Total.	Effectives.	Non-effectives.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
ARTILLERY.							
L. F. Battery.	93	67	160	73	38	111	
TOTAL.	93	67	160	73	38	111	
CAVALRY.							
1st Cavalry ...	455	24	479	411	19	430	
2nd Lancers ...	455	24	479	433	18	451	
3rd Cavalry ...	455	24	479	*	*	*	*Amalgamated with the rest as a temporary measure.
The Guards ...	135	10	145	130	6	136	
TOTAL.	1,500	82	1,582	974	43	1,017	
INFANTRY.							
1st Infantry ...	698	29	727	668	30	698	
2nd " ...	698	49	747	665	33	698	
3rd " ...	698	29	727	613	32	645	
4th " ...	516	27	543				Amalgamated with the rest.
Faraskhana Company.	...	...	...	111	...	111	
Okha Battalion.	461	14	475	371	17	388	
TOTAL.	3,071	148	3,219	2,428	122	2,540	
The Band.	111	6	117	61	8	69	
The General and Staff Officers.	6	2	8	4	...	4	
GRAND TOTAL.	4,781	305	5,086	3,540	201	3,741	

88. The cost of maintaining the Regular Force during the year is shown in the following table:—

Cost of maintenance.

Year.	Artillery.	Cavalry.	Infantry	Band.	General & his Staff & Senapati Office.	Medical Establishment.	Veterinary Establishment.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1924–25	41,610	7,17,427	7,02,761	37,078	57,571	18,832	10,184	15,85,46

89. The Regular Force thus cost Rs. 15,85,463 against Rs. 15,55,941 in the previous year. The increase is mainly due to:—

Reasons for increase in expenditure.

(a) Captain F. L. King's pay being paid from this department and more recruits than the last year being enlisted,

(b) the sets of necessary kit being purchased this year and

(c) remounts being purchased.

90. The annual average cost for each effective in the Artillery was Rs. 375, in the Cavalry Rs. 705, in the Infantry Rs. 277 and in the Band Rs. 537. Taking the force together, the average cost of an effective was Rs. 474 or about Rs. 40 a month.

Average annual cost per effective

91. The total strength of the Irregular Force during the year was as follows :—

Strength of the Irregular.

Horse.

Shilledar.	Shibandi.	Paganihaya.	Khalsa.	Total.
908	333	182	577	2,000

Foot.

Shibandi.	Khalsa.	Total.
1,139	667	1,806

Cost of the Irregular.

92. The expenditure on account of the Irregular Force comes to Rs. 3,22,784 against Rs. 3,54,407 last year.

Reasons for decrease in cost.

93. The decrease was mainly due to the reduction of Nimnook in succession cases.

The average annual cost per head in the Irregular Force was Rs. 724.

Total cost of the Army.

94. Taking the Regular and Irregular Forces together, the total cost was as follows:—

Regulars.	Irregulars.	Pension and Gratuity.	Total.
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
15,85,463	3,22,784	1,24,467	20,32,714

A sum of Rs. 3,75,000 paid on account of the annual contingent commutation money to the Government of India was debited to this department as usual The grand total of the expenditure during the year was Rs. 24,07,714 against Rs. 23,92,074 for the last year.

95. The effectives in the Regular Army are classified by religion as under:—

Classification by caste.

Force.	Hindus.	Mahomedans.	Christians.	Total.	Average height.	Average chest measurement.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Artillery ...	48	24	1	73	5′-6″	34″
Cavalry ...	762	212	...	974	5′-5·6″	33·8″
Infantry ...	1,787	640	1	2,428	5′-4·9″	32·4″
The Band ...	25	27	9	61	5′-4″	...
TOTAL.	2,622	903	11	3,536	5′-5·1″	33·4″

96. The following were some of the important changes introduced in this department :—

Notable changes.

(1) The re-adjustment of the Cavalry and Infantry Regiments has been made on the lines of the British Indian Regiments, so as to facilitate their training according to the latest training rules.

(2) The Government of India have sanctioned the use of three hundred 300 Short Enfield Rifles for the training of the men of the 2nd Infantry. 298 of these Rifles which were obtained as a loan from the Government of India have, therefore, been given in their charge.

(3) Fourteen men from the 2nd Battalion have been attached to 1/8 Punjab Battalion stationed in the Camp here, to undergo Physical, Musketry and Signalling training. They will be utilised on their return as instructors.

(4) The staff required for one Company at the time of raising a labour Battalion has been earmarked from the present strength of the 2nd Infantry under the command of Lt. A. F. Moulvi as Commandant.

(5) Twenty binoculars and twenty prismatic compasses have been purchased for the use of Field Officers at the time of Field Manœuvres. Five helios and eight bigbic lamps have been purchased for signalling classes.

(6) During the drill season, troops were taken out for Manœuvres and practical training as was done last year. Lectures were given to all officers on this training. Schemes of different kinds of operations were prepared and they were reviewed and criticised in the conference of all officers; these were greatly appreciated by them. As they have great instructional value, these lectures and review of these schemes have been printed in book form and circulated for information and guidance of all officers.

(7) Pay of some of the Bajeloks (followers) of the Cavalry and Infantry has been revised

(8) The scarcity allowance at the rate of Rs. 4 and Rs. 9 for horse was given to the Shilledars whose Jat Nimnuk was upto Rs. 75 p.m.

(9) The 1st Battalion of Infantry has been transferred to Dhari and the 3rd Battalion which was there has been brought to Baroda.

(10) 85 country bred horses for the two Cavalry Regiments, 25 for the Guards and 14 for the Huzurat Paga have been purchased and they are found useful and serviceable.

(11) The Military Cattle Pound arrangement has been further extended for a period of 5 years.

(12) The minor Sardars and Shilledars have been exempted from attending the Swaris.

(13) As per desire of His Highness the Maharaja Saheb, the Military probationers are being given training of Khangi accounts and of the other branches of the Khangi department.

(14) Bhatta is sanctioned to be given to the rank and file who take part in Field Parades and Manœuvres.

(15) Sanaiya and Shingada bands have been started for two years in the Huzurat Paga from the 1st April last.

(16) The Padra Military Lines have been given to the Police in exchange of the Bhutadi Zampa Lines for the sake of convenience of both the departments.

(17) Her Highness the Maharani Saheb was pleased to give a dinner to all Military men and officers and clerks on the last birth-day of His Highness the Maharaja Saheb.

Discipline & efficiency.

97. Discipline and efficiency in the army were well maintained and progress was made as regards the practical training of the troops so far as arms and equipment were available.

B. Legislation.

Personnel.

98. Mr. Gopal Krishna Dandekar held charge of the Legal Remembrancer's Office upto 15th of June 1925 when he was transferred to the Varishta Court as Chief Justice and Mr. Vithal Dadaji Satghare, the Navsari District Judge, succeeded him as Legal Remembrancer. Mr. Padte and after him Mr. G. H. Limaye worked as Assistant Legal Remembrancer. Mr. Manjulal S. Dave was appointed as additional Assistant from 2nd May 1925.

The Legal Remembrancer was assisted in the work of civil and criminal litigation on behalf of Government by a staff of 38 Government pleaders who are attached to several courts in the State. All of them have worked satisfactorily.

(a) LEGISLATIVE ACTS.

Acts, Rules and Circulars.

99. During the year, the Legal Remembrancer published 31 Acts, 35 sets of Rules, 14 Circulars and 14 Notifications.

100. Out of these 31 Acts, 4 new enactments of important nature were

Important Acts.

(1) The Press and Registration of Books Act.
(2) The Ferries Act.
(3) The Registration of Births and Deaths Act.
(4) The Cinematograph Act.

The Press and Registration of Books Act is of great importance. The Baroda Press Act, which was based on the British Press Act of 1910, had been in force since 1912. Before that the Press Rules issued in 1892 were in force in the State. In 1921, the British Government appointed a committee to consider the Press Laws. The committee after due consideration recommended that the Press Act as well as the Newspapers Incitement to Offences Act be repealed and necessary amendments be made in the Press and Registration of Books Act, Criminal Procedure Code, etc. These recommendations of the committee were accepted by the British Government and necessary amendments were made in the Press and Registration of Books Act of 1867. In 1922, a committee was appointed to frame an Act on the lines of the British Act and the Princes' Protection Act passed by the British Legislature in the year 1923. The Press Act Bill after passing through several stages was finally introduced in the Session of the Dhara Sabha held in October 1924. The Act, as finally sanctioned by His Highness' Government was published in the Adnya Patrika of 2nd April 1925. In the new Act provisions also have been nserted to safeguard the reputation and prestige of Princes of Indian States from violent and ungrounded attacks through the Press.

101. The old rules about Ferries had been in force since the year 1905. New circumstances required adequate provision and clear elucidation of certain points. Accordingly, a draft of the Ferries Act was framed in the light of the several provisions contained in various enactments of the British Indian

Ferries Act.

Provincial Legislatures. The Bill was finally introduced in the Dhara Sabha held on 26–3–25 and it was passed unanimously. The Act came into force on the 1st of August 1925.

Registration of Births and Deaths Act.

102. The old rules about Registration of Births and Deaths were in effect since the year 1901. These rules were divided into two parts. The first part dealt with maintaining registers, etc., and the second part contained provisions specially applicable to the Baroda City. The registration of births and deaths was not made compulsory except in the City of Baroda. However, in 1906 the Local Municipal Act came into force, which required the Municipalities to keep a register of births and deaths. For this purpose Municipalities and Vishisht Panchayats in the State had made several bye-laws which were, however, found to be wanting in uniformity. The Sanitary Association also passed a resolution to make it obligatory upon the people living in villages to get births and deaths registered. To meet the wishes of the Association and to remove these anomalies, it was thought desirable to make a general Act containing provisions for the compulsory registration of births and deaths. In drafting the Act the provisions contained in the Acts which are prevailing in various parts of British India were taken into consideration and adopted wherever found to be necessary. The Bill was introduced in the session of the Dhara Sabha held in March 1925 and passed by that body. The Act came into force on the 1st of August 1925.

Cinematograph Act.

103. There were proposals from the Commerce and the Police departments to amend certain sections of the rules for control over places of entertainments, by adding a few sections providing for adequate control over Cinematographs. These rules had been framed under section 14 of the Police Act. The matter being referred to the Legal Remembrancer for opinion, it was suggested that instead of making amendments on the lines proposed by the department, we should have a

separate enactment for control over cinematographs, and accordingly a draft of the Act based on the British Act was framed and forwarded to the Huzur. The draft was approved and sanctioned. It was published in the month of July 1925.

Sets of Rules.

104. Among the sets of rules, the rules regarding the use of pumps and tractors are of importance.

Circulars and Notifications.

105. Out of the 14 circulars issued during this year, Circular No. 1 increased the powers of the heads of departments in sanctioning the amount of pension of government servants drawing a salary upto Rs. 50. Circular No. 5 was issued to give thirty rupees as starting pay to government servants who had passed either the Matriculation or School Final examination in the grade of Rs. 20 to 40. Circular No. 7 was intended to point out certain discrepancies that were brought to notice in the bye-laws framed by societies established under the Local Benevolent Societies' Act No. II of Samvat 1963. Suggestion was made to the effect that great precaution was necessary on the part of the societies to see that in framing their bye-laws they did not incorporate principles which were evidently opposed to law or public policy.

Notifications.

106. With a view to keep the executive officers conversant with judicial work, the Varisht Court issued a Notification No. 88 of Samvat 1980. Notification No. 1 was issued dealing with the arrangement for the conduct of criminal cases by government pleaders before such executive officers. Notification No. 6 extended the period of receiving suggestions from the public for 6 months more with respect to the Bill regarding the Prevention of Fragmentation of Agricultural Holdings.

Bills published.

107. During the year the department published the following Bills :—

(1) The Land Revenue Code Amendment Bill.

(2) Bill regarding the Press and Registration of Books Act, as revised by the Select Committee.

(3) The Ferries Bill.

(4) City Improvement and Town Planning Bill.

(5) Bill to amend the Arbitration Act.

(6) Criminal Procedure Code Bill.

(7) Bill regarding the Registration of Births and Deaths.

(8) The Village Protection Bill.

(9) The Pre-emption Bill.

(10) The Factories Act Bill.

These Bills were published in the Adnya Patrika for inviting suggestions. The Criminal Procedure Code Bill was referred to a Select Committee for detailed consideration.

Tour of Inspection.

108. The Legal Remembrancer made a tour of inspection in the Baroda district. The Mahal Nyayadhishis at Kalol and Sinor, the judicial courts at Mehsana, the records of some Panchayats and the court of the Chandod Diwani Kamdar were inspected.

Foreign Legislation.

109. As usual, the Legal Remembrancer submitted a statement to the Huzur, about legislation passed in British India during the year with recommendations to adopt some of them in our State.

(b) THE INFANT MARRIAGF PREVENTION ACT.

Results of the Infant Marriage Prevention Act.

110. The following tables will show the results of the Infant Marriage Prevention Act:—

I. Applications for exemption and offences.

Year.	Applications for exemption.		Offences against the Act.		Percentage of fines more than Rs. 10.	Remarks.
	No. of applications.	Percentage of rejections.	No. of cases.	Percentage of convictions.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1923–24.	7	14·3	9,103	81·8	7·3	
1924–25.	12	...	7,545	83·1	10·2	

II. Analysis of percentage of persons granted exemption according to castes.

Year.	Brahmins.	Kshatriyas.	Banias.	Artisans.	Kolis.	Kunbis.	Dheds and Bhangis.	Others.	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1923–24.	...	...	16·6	16·6	16·6	16·6	...	33·5	
1924–25.	16·6	8·3	16·6	...	...	...	...	58·5	

III. Analysis of percentage of persons convicted according to castes.

Year.	Brahmins.	Kshatriyas.	Banias.	Artisans.	Kolis.	Kunbis.	Dheds and Bhangis.	Others.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1923–24	2·1	3·5	1·2	14·5	16·8	23·7	13·7	34·5	
1924–25	3·5	5·8	1·9	5·7	19·1	16·4	17	30·6	

IV. Table of Infant Marriages penalised, allowed and marriages after the prescribed age-limit.

Year.	Number of registered marriages.				Remarks.
	Contracted after the prescribed age--limit.	Exempted marriages.	Marriages penalised.	Percentage of marriages below age to total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6
1916	7,022	30	2,246	24·5	
1917	8,911	15	4,245	40	
1918	6,857	115	3,172	32·4	
1919	7,677	296	2,387	25·9	
1920	10,398	8	4,311	29·3	
1921	8,484	6	3,175	27·2	
1922–23 ...	12,742	89	6,624	34	
1923–24 ...	12,489	380	6,107	34	
1924–25 ...	12,737	12	6,403	33·4	

There were 12 applications for exemption and all of them were granted. The general tendency of courts is to grant applications only when strong and cogent reasons are adduced. The twelve applications granted were from the following classes of people—2 from Kshatriyas, 2 from Bania and the rest 8 from people belonging to other castes.

The number of offences against the Act has decreased by nearly 1,500 and the percentage of convictions has increased by about 2 per cent. This shows that the operation of the Act is having effect.

(c) THE KHANGI NIYAM BRANCH.

Khangi Niyam Branch.

111. The Khangi Niyam Branch which was placed under the supervision of the Legal Remembrancer since the 1st of August 1918 was transferred to the Khangi department.

(d) INSPECTION.

Inspection of the Office.

112. Rao Bahadur G. H. Desai, Huzur Tapasani Kamdar, inspected this office in the month of December 1924 and submitted an inspection report to government, wherein he made certain valuable suggestions. The Dewan has passed orders upon the report to carry out some of the suggestions made by Rao Bahadur Govindbhai and in due conformity with these orders, necessary steps have been taken to bring the suggestions into effect.

C. Judicial.

Personnel.

113. During the year, Rao Bahadur Govindbhai Hathibhai Desai, B.A., LL.B., continued as Chief Justice uptill 2–11–24. He was then appointed as a Councillor on the State Executive Council. Mr. V. K. Dhurandhar, B A., LL.B., (Advocate), worked as acting Chief Justice from 3–11–24 to 14–6–1925 and for the rest of the year he worked as Second Judge. Mr. G. K. Dandekar, B.A., LL B., worked as Chief Justice from 15–6–25 to the end of the year. Mr. A. A. Kehimkar, B.A., LL.B., worked as a Third Judge from 1–8–24 to 3–11–24 and from 15–6–25 to the end of the year. For the rest of the year he worked as a Second Judge. Mr. Ratanji Dosabhai Master, B.A., LL.B., was appointed as a Third Judge on 3–11–24 and he worked in that capacity from 3–11–24 to 1–3–25 and from 2–5–25 to 14–6–25. During the period between 2–3–25 and 1–5–25 he worked as a Second Judge and from 15–6–25 he worked as an Extra Judge. Mr. Motilal Chhotalal Desai, B.A., LL.B., worked as a Varisht Court Judge during the period when Mr. Kehimkar was on privilege leave.

Administrative work.

114. The administrative work of the department was done by the Chief Justice.

115. The number of Courts was as follows :—

Number of Courts.

Varisht Court	1
District Judges' Courts including the City District Judge	6
Assistant Judges' Courts	4
Subordinate Judges' Courts	24
District Magistrates' Courts	5
Revenue Officers as Ex-Officio Magistrates (doing executive work)	85
Ordinary Magistrates' Courts, (doing Judicial work)	24
Revenue Magistrates exercising 2nd and 3rd class Magisterial powers (Judicial)	18
Village Munsiffs' Courts	4
Other officers invested with Civil powers ...	5
Courts of Village Panchayats exercising Civil and Criminal powers	47
Courts of Vishishta Panchayats exercising Civil and Criminal powers	7

116. The condition of work during the year in the civil courts in their original jurisdiction as compared with the previous year is shown in the following table :—

File and disposal of original civil cases.

Year.	Suits filed.	Disposal including the pending cases of the previous year.
1	2	3
1924-25	21,071	19,653
1923-24	19,403	19,352

It will be seen that both the file and disposal during the year was greater than that in the preceding year. The number of suits pending disposal at the end of the year was

7,746 as against 6,328 last year. Of these, 1,121 ordinary suits were of more than one year's duration as against 813 in the last year.

Percentage of ordinary suits and their classification.

117. The percentage of ordinary suits according to the subject matter is as follows :—

Ordinary Suits.	Percentages.	
	1924–25.	1923–24.
Relating to money matters	72·1	73
Relating to immoveable property ...	22·3	22·8
Relating to other matters	5·6	4·2
Total ...	100	100

Classification of Small Cause Suits not possible under the new Act.

118. The old Small Causes Courts Act was repealed and the new one came into force on 1–8–24.

Disposal of ordinary suits.

119. The disposal of ordinary suits is shown below :—

Year.	Cases filed.	Valuation in rupees.	Disposal including pending cases.	Average duration in days.		Pending at the end of the year.
				Contested cases,	Non-contested cases.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1924–25	10,143	39,57,989	9,153	229	75	5,785
1923–24	9,621	38,11,428	9,492	204	78	4,795

120. The disposal of Small Cause suits is shown below :—

Disposal of Small Cause suits.

Year.	Cases filed.	Valuation in rupees.	Disposal including pending cases.	Average duration in days.		Pending at the end of the year.
				Contested cases.	Non-contested cases.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1924–25	10,928	7,20,187	10,500	61	39	1,961
1923–24	9,782	7,58,614	9,860	67	40	1,533

File and disposal of Darkhasts.

The following table will show the file, disposal and average duration of Darkhasts for execution of decrees :—

Year.	File.	Disposal including old pending cases.	Pending at the end of the year.	Average duration in days.
1	2	3	4	5
1924–25	16,848	16,109	4,651	177
1923–24	14,281	14,002	3,912	166

Percentage of mode of disposal.

121. The following table will show the percentages of the modes in which 16,109 Darkhasts were disposed of as compared with 14,002 of the previous year :—

Year.	Stayed at the request of parties.	Struck off the file.	Dealt with by Rajinamas, &c.	Actual execution.
1	2	3	4	5
1924—25	25·8	13·5	42·7	18
1923—24	27·2	12·6	41·9	18·3

122. The various modes in which satisfaction of Darkhasts was effected in which the aid of courts was solicited are as shown below:—

Modes of satisfaction of Darkhasts.

Ways in which satisfaction was obtained.	Percentage of Darkhasts in ordinary suits.		Percentage of Darkhasts in Small Cause suits.	
	1924–25.	1923–24.	1924–25.	1923–24.
1	2	3	4	5
Satisfaction obtained by—				
actual payment of money.	59·2	51·3	88·7	85·7
delivery of possession.	19	22·2	...	...
sale of immoveable property.	16·2	18·9	...	...
sale of moveable property.	2·3	4·4	4	5
imprisonment of judgment debtors.	2·3	1·6	7	7·4
giving periodical instalments.	1	1·6	·3	1·9
Total...	100	100	100	100

From the above it will appear that there is an appreciable increase in the proportion of judgment debtors being put into prison to compel them to satisfy the decrees passed against them. It is strongly insisted that the decrees of Judicial courts should be satisfied by payment and the result shows the comparatively better help given to decree holders.

CIVIL APPEALS.

Civil Appeals.

123. The following table will show the file, disposal, arrears and average duration of civil appeals :—

Year.	File with arrears.	Valuation in rupees.	Disposal including old pending cases.	Pending at the end of the year.	Average duration (in days)	
					Contested appeals.	Other appeals.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1924-25	2,619	9,28,414	1,518	1,101	219	95
1923-24	2,675	9,79,090	1,677	998	171	63

Result of civil appeals.

124. Result of civil appeals is shown as under :—

Year.	Percentage of First appeals decided by Varisht Court.			Percentage of Second appeals decided by Varisht Court.			Percentage of appeals decided by District Judges.		
	Confirmed.	Reversed.	Modified.	Confirmed.	Reversed.	Modified.	Confirmed.	Reversed.	Modified.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1924-25	56·4	5·3	38·3	81·6	7·1	11·3	58·4	22·8	18·8
1923-24	64·5	18·4	17·1	75·8	9·3	14·9	56·7	20·8	22·5

VILLAGE MUNSIFFS' COURTS

Village Munsiffs' courts.

125. At the end of the year there were 4 Village Munsiffs' courts viz. at Petlad, Padra, Kambliwada (under Patan) and Variav (under Kamrej). The following table will show the work turned out by these courts ;—

Year.	Number of suits filed including arrears.	Number of suits disposed of.	Arrears.	Average duration in days.
1	2	3	4	5
1924–25	332	316	16	33
1923–24	391	382	9	29

THE CONCILIATORS.

Conciliators.

126. The system of conciliation was in force in 19 Talukas including the Baroda City, the same as in the preceding year. The number of conciliators during the year was 64 as against 75 in the last year. The state of the file and its disposal was as under:—

Districts.	1924–25.			1923–24.		
	File with arrears.	Dis-posals.	Arrears.	File with arrears.	Dis-posal.	Arrears.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Baroda ...	868	841	27	1,021	1,013	8
Kadi ...	553	548	5	242	232	10
Navsari ...	76	76	...	152	145	7
Amreli ...	43	37	6	24	20	4
Total ...	1,540	1,502	38	1,439	1,410	29

There is a slight increase in suits taken before Conciliators.

THE PANCHAYATS.

127. In addition to village Munsiffs and Conciliators there were in all 54 Panchayats, 7 Vishishta and 47 Village Panchayats, empowered to dispose of Judicial work during the year, the number being the same as in the last year. The following table will show the civil work turned out by them:—

The Panchayats.

Year.	File including arrears.	Disposal	In plaintiff's favour.	In defendant's favour.	Average duration in days.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1924-25... ...	228	227	192	35	5
1923-24... ...	192	181	142	39	14

POSSESSORY SUITS.

128. The file and disposal of Possessory suits was as under:—

File and disposal of Possessory suits.

Year.	Suits for disposal.	Suits disposed of.	Pending.	Average duration in days.
1	2	3	4	5
1924-25	859	671	188	62
1923-24	691	534	157	55

CRIMINAL CASES.

129. The following table shows the file, disposal and average duration of criminal cases:—

File, disposal and average duration of criminal cases.

Year.	File.	Disposal including old pending cases.	Average duration in days.	Average duration of summary cases in days.
1	2	3	4	5
1924–25	21,486	19,547	12	2
1923–24	21,542	20,030	10	3

Number of cases tried by Sessions Judges.

130. The number of cases tried by the courts of Sessions Judges was 165 against 170 last year.

Number of accused tried and number of witnesses examined.

131. The number of accused persons whose cases were disposed of was 44,355 as against 44,248 in the preceding year s[illegible]ing an average of two accused pe[illegible] to each case. The total number [illegible] nesses examined in criminal cases in the year was 19,[illegible] against 19,243 in the previous year.

Percentage of offences.

132. The following table shows the percentage of different kinds of offences:—

Year.	Against property.	Against person.	Against public justice.	Against tranquility.	Against marriage.	Fabricating false documents.	Against coinage.	Regarding public services.	Regarding infant marriages.	Other offences.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1924–25	18·8	22·7	·2	1·6	1·7	...	...	4	38	16·6
1923–24	14·4	22·9	·3	1·8	1·6	...	...	·4	46·3	12·3

133. The condition as to more serious offences during the year will be seen from the following table:—

Serious offences.

Year.	Murder.	Culpable homicide.	Grievous hurt.	Rape.	Dacoity.	Robbery.	House breaking.	Forgery.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1924-25	63	27	198	7	96	82	156	6
1923-24	45	25	268	13	90	83	168	16

134. Percentage of convictions is as under:—

Percentage of conviction.

Year.	Convicted.	Acquitted or discharged.
1	2	3
1924–25	35·4	64·6
1923–24	39·3	60·7

135. The statement of the accused receiving punishments is given below :—

Punishments.

Year.	Capital sentence.	Fines only.	Imprisonment with or without fine.	Imprisonment with whipping.	Order to furnish security.	Whipping only.	Solitary confinement.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1924–25	1	14,289	1,094	...	98	16	...
1923–24	11	15,972	1,012	...	84	6	...

136. Criminal Appeals.

Criminal Appeals.

Year.	File including old pending cases.	Disposal.	Confirmed.	Percentage of cases.	
				Modified.	Reversed or remanded for retrial.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1924-25	541	487	62	11	27
1923-24	490	472	66·5	8·5	25

Inamdars' Work.

137. The number of Inamdars invested with criminal powers was the same as last year. Of these only 2 Inamdars, viz., the Inamdars of Ena (under Palsana) and Deva (under Petlad) did some work. They had between them 6 cases involving 10 accused. All of these cases have been disposed of. Out of 10 persons involved, 2 were convicted and fined, 3 were acquitted, the cases against 4 were compounded and the case against one was struck off the file. Last year the same two Inamdars tried and disposed of 5 cases involving 8 accused.

Inamdars' work.

Criminal work by Panchayats.

138. The following table shows the criminal work turned out by Panchayats:—

Criminal work done by Panchayats.

Year.	File with arrears.		Disposal.		Balance at the end of the year.	
	No. of cases.	No. of accused.	No. of cases.	No. of accused.	No. of cases.	No. of accused.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1924-25...	98	147	97	144	1	3
1923-24...	98	130	98	130	...	...

Out of the total number of 144 accused tried by the Panchayats, 90 were convicted and fined and 54 were acquitted. The corresponding figures for the last year were 85 and 44.

PLEADERS AND MUKHTYARS.

Pleaders and Mukhtyars.

139. The number of Pleaders and Mukhtyars in the several courts of this State was 413 against 403 last year. 17 new pleaders were permanently enrolled for the first time during the year, 6 pleaders, died during the year and the name of 1 pleader was struck off the register. Out of the total number of pleaders 3 are Barristers-at-Law, 162 LL.Bs., 12 High Court Pleaders, 22 District Pleaders and the remaining 214 have either passed the local Pleaders' or Mukhtyars' examination.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE.

Income and Expenditure.

140. The total receipts of civil and criminal courts (from Stamps, Court fees, Fines and other items) and the expenditure during the last two years were as under :—

Year.	Income.	Expenditure.
1	2	3
1924-25	6,06,051	5,96,800
1923-24	6,15,890	5,93,363

Expenditure figure includes Government pleaders' expenses and expenses of pauper suits.

141. The total expenditure of Rs. 5,96,800 includes the expenses of Rs. 52,330 regarding Government Pleaders' fees, their travelling allowances, and expenses incurred on account of pauper suits.

INSPECTION.

Inspection.

142. The Chief Justice, Rao Bahadur Govindbhai Hathibhai Desai, inspected Munsiffs' courts at Karjan and Savli, as well as Savli Vishista Panchayat and Savli Mahal Fouzdari Nyayadhishi's court. The Ag. Chief Justice, Mr. Dhurandhar, inspected the courts at the following places :—

(1) Okhamandal, (2) Amreli, (3) Kodinar,
(4) Dhari, (5) Navsari, (6) Vyara,
(7) Kamrej, (8) Kathor, (9) Songhad,
(10) Gandevi and (11) Billimora.

The Legal Remembrancer inspected the following courts:—

(1) Kalol Munsiff's court.

(2) Sinor " "

(3) Sinor Mahal Fouzdari Nyayadhishi's court.

(4) Chandod Diwani Kamdar and Fouzdari Nyayadhishi's court.

(5) District court, Kadi Prant.

(6) Kadi Naib Prant Nyayadhishi's court and

(7) Mehsana Munsiff's court.

REFORMS.

143. The department issued in all 16 civil and 14 criminal circulars. The following were the chief reforms and noticeable changes introduced during the year:—

Reforms.

(1) A circular was issued directing the courts that Bajawani fees should be taken in the cases of realising government money in pauper suits and attachment of witness' property.

(2) In order to avoid delay in the disposal of criminal cases under the Company's Act, a circular was issued directing the Magistrates to give such preference to those cases as is given to other complaints on behalf of the government.

(3) A uniform period of 12 years was fixed for destroying such papers of civil and criminal cases as were liable to be destroyed under the Act.

(4) In order to know the grounds of the opinion of the Assessors, the Sessions courts were directed to record an intelligible and precise statement of the grounds of the opinion of each Assessor individually.

(5) *The criminal courts having jurisdiction over the place where the defaulter was found and refused to pay the dues on demand, (under Section 113 of the Indian Railways Act) were empowered to try such cases and it was also ordered that such cases should be entered by the magistrates in the register of the miscellaneous applications.

(6) A permanent reciprocal arrangement was entered into between this State and Bikaner State to serve directly non-compulsory processes.

D. Extradition.

Extradition work.

144. During the year, His Highness' Government made extradition demands in 143 cases as against 169 cases last year and received similar demands in 101 cases from the British districts and Indian States as against 107 cases of the last year.

Number of demands by and from Baroda.

145. The following table will show the comparative statement of demands, both by Baroda and from Baroda.

Demands by Baroda.

Number of demands made from			Number of demands withdrawn.	
	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.
British Districts ...	89	153	9	20
Indian States ...	54	118	4	5
TOTAL.	143	271	13	25

Demands from Baroda.

Number of demands made by			Number of demands withdrawn.	
	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.
British Districts ...	52	69	11	22
Indian States... ...	49	90	19	33
TOTAL.	101	159	30	55

146. During the year, 217 persons were surrendered to Baroda in 135 cases; while Baroda surrendered 151 persons in 94 cases as shown below :—

Surrenders by and to Baroda.

Surrenders to Baroda.

	Number of surrenders on demands made during the current year.		Number of surrenders on demands made during the previous year.		Total number of surrenders during the year.	
	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons.
British Districts ...	74	118	15	23	89	141
Indian States... ...	34	56	12	20	46	76
TOTAL	108	174	27	43	135	217

Surrenders by Baroda.

	Number of surrenders on demands made during the current year.		Number of surrenders on demands made during the previous year.		Total number of surrenders during the year.	
	Cases.	Persons.	Cases.	Persons	Cases.	Persons.
British Districts ...	43	54	5	12	48	66
Indian States ...	39	65	7	20	46	85
TOTAL...	82	119	12	32	94	151

Note:—(1) Out of 217 persons in 135 cases surrendered to Baroda during the year and 99 persons in 43 cases that had remained to be tried at the end of the last year, 66 persons were discharged in 33 cases, 67 persons acquitted in 30 cases, 121 persons sentenced in 77 cases, 20 persons dealt with otherwise in 9 cases and 42 persons remained to be tried in 29 cases.

(2) During the year, two deserters in two separate cases were handed over to the Foreign Military authorities; one to Navanagar State and the other to Rajpipla State.

E. Preservation of Peace and Order.

Control.

147. The Sar Suba remained in charge of the Bandobasti Branch for the preservation of peace and order and he was assisted by Mr. R. R. Pawar.

General state of crime in the districts.

148. The general state of crime during the year was not particularly noticeable. In the Baroda district, owing to the execution of some prominent dacoits, the situation showed an appreciable calm. In the city of Baroda, a communal tension arose among the Mahomedans themselves regarding some religious ceremony in the Juma Masjid and the management thereof, as an unfortunate result of which, a slight affray took place among some of those present on the occasion, and

the case went to the magisterial court. A somewhat bitter feeling still prevails in the community. Steps are, therefore, continued to be taken to see that such unhappy incidents do not occur again. Similarly in Shinore, an affray took place between the Sindhis, who are outsiders, and the local Mahomedans, but owing to prompt and effective measures taken by the District and Mahal officers, the situation was kept well in hand. The officers concerned are still making strenuous efforts to see that full peace and tranquility are restored again and amicable settlement arrived at between the parties. In Kadi district, a communal fracas had also arisen between the Hindus and Mahomedans in Unava, a village under Sidhpur Taluka, where the Durgah or Shrine of Meera Datar is situated; but the timely interference of the district officers soon restored peace and order. In Navsari district, owing to the suspicious character of some Bohras at Dabhel, the Police Thana was removed from Vesma to Dabhel. But as the Bohras at Dabhel appeared to have shaken off the undesirable tendency, the Police Thana was taken back to Vesma. The Amreli district, during the year under report, remained unaffected by the mischievous tendencies of the dacoits.

Peace and order in the State.

149. Desirable co-operation between the Bandobasti Magistrates and the Police facilitated the maintenance of peace and order in the State.

F. Police.

Personnel.

150. Rao Bahadur B. A. Ghatge was in charge of the department as Commissioner of Police throughout the year.

Sanctioned strength.

151. The sanctioned strength of the Police Force excluding non-effectives, but including the Criminal Investigation Department, and the Finger Print Bureau, remained with necessary changes the same as in the previous year; viz., 1,025 officers and 4,139 men. The total sanctioned strength of mounted and foot police also remained unchanged accordingly i.e. 278 mounted and 4,886 foot police.

The sanctioned strength of the department is classified according to rank and districts as mentioned in the following statement:—

Sanctioned strength.

Rank.	Sanctioned strength.								Remarks.
	C. I. D.	Finger Print Bureau.	Baroda.	Kadi.	Navsari.	Amreli.	Okhamandal.	Total.	
ACTUAL STRENGTH.									
Police Naib Subas	...	...	1	1	1	1	...	4	
Asstt. Police Naib Subas ...	1	...	2	1	...	...	...	4	
Sar Fouzdars	1	...	3	3	1	1	...	9	
Fouzdars	3	1	21	16	9	6	2	58	
Naib Fouzdars	5	4	66	69	32	22	4	202*	*Carriage Inspector (Naib Fouzdar) whose pay is charged to the Municipality is not included in this. One Naib Fouzdar has been dispensed with in Beyt in Okhamandal owing to the new arrangement.
Jamadars	...	...	18	19	9	6	1	53	
Havaldars	...	...	254	231	105	69	9	668§	§One Havaldar has been added to the staff of the Water Police in Okhamandal in the new arrangement.
Regular Datedars	...	...	3	3	1	1	...	8	
Regular Naib Datedars ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	
Dakhalbaj Posts (kept vacant)									
Asstt. Police Naib Suba ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Sar Fouzdar...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Fouzdars	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	
Datedars	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	
Havaldars	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	
TOTAL OF OFFICERS.	10	5	368	344	158	106	16	1025	
ACTUAL STRENGTH.									
Sepoys	10	...	1468	1159	479	341	45$	3502	$One Sepoy of the Amreli District has been transferred to Okhamandal for the Beyt Fouzdar.
Regular Swars	...	...	63	110	26	33	6	238	
DAKHALBAJ (Kept vacant.)									
Sepoys	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	369	
Swars	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	
TOTAL OF MEN.	10	...	1531	1269	505	374	51	4139	
GRAND TOTAL ...	10	5	1899	1613	663	480	67	5164	

152. The Railway Police establishment in Baroda, Kadi and Navsari remained unaltered during the year.

Railway and Water Police.

The Water Police establishment in Kodinar Taluka of the Amreli district remained unchanged. In Okhamandal, the post of Water Police Fouzdar was done away with and that of one Havaldar added to the Water Police establishment. The administrative duties of the Water Police Fouzdar were transferred to the newly appointed Beyt Fouzdar in addition to his own duties connected with the regular force and his professional duties connected with the launch were transferred to the Water Police Naib Fouzdar. The current expenses of the Motor Launch and Machhawa in Dwarka were Rs. 974-14-10 including Rs. 287-8-0 for the purchase of a new high tension Magneto for the launch and one Machhawa in Kodinar was maintained at an annual rental of Rs. 300. No unclaimed articles were found from unclaimed vessels in Kodinar. In Okhamandal unclaimed property worth Rs. 43 was taken in charge by the Water Police.

153. The distribution of the sanctioned strength excluding non-effectives, the Criminal Investigation Department and the Finger Print Bureau showing the nature of duties on which they were engaged in each district is shown in the following table :—

Distribution of the sanctioned strength.

District.	Sanctioned strength.	Jail and Treasury Guards.	Palace, office and other Guards.	Personal attendance.	Writer orderlies and Head-quarter duties.	Reserve.	Engaged in the prevention and detection of crimes.	Vacancies.
Baroda	1,899	131	296	94	110	280	937	51
Kadi	1,613	129	78	82	58	225	840	201
Navsari	663	82	23	46	34	62	351	65
Amreli	480	4	16	31	46	32	328	23
Okhamandal ...	67	...	4	6	2	...	55	...
Total ...	4,722	346	417	259	250	636	2,511	340

154. The actual force during the year consisted of 2,265 Hindus, 2,110 Mahomedans and 7 of other religions, as against 2,243, 2,232 and 7 respectively in the preceding year.

Police as divided according to caste and creed.

155 The percentage of men able to read and write was 62·89 as against 61·04 in the previous year.

Education.

156. The Head Quarters Schools carried out their usual programme of instruction. The following number of officers and men passed the departmental examinations during the year:—

Training.

Sar Fouzdar's Examination	1
Fouzdar's Examination	11
Naib Fouzdar's Examination	5

157. Drill, discipline and physical training were as usual attended to at the District and Taluka Head Quarters. Athletic sports were held during the year in Baroda and Navsari and prizes were distributed to the successful competitors. Military instructors were engaged at Mehsana and Navsari districts for giving instruction in drill to the Policemen.

Drill, discipline and physical training.

158. The number of punishments awarded to officers and men during the year was 3,001 (33 judicial and 2,968 departmental) as against 2,640 (42 judicial and 2,598 departmental) in the preceding year.

Punishments.

The percentage of punishments to the actual force was 68·48 as against 58·73 in the preceding year.

159. The number of officers and men who received rewards in money in appreciation of their services was 87 and that of those who received special promotions for good work was 30 as against 76 and 46 respectively in the preceding year.

Rewards.

160. Excepting the Navsari district, whele malaria prevailed in its usual season, the Police Force enjoyed fairly good health throughout the State. There was no epidemic in a serious form.

Health.

161. The buildings of Sinor Police line in Baroda district and Chada Chowki under Khearlu Taluka in Kadi district were completed. The construction of the Salher Police Thana in Navsari district and of Wankia and Mota Ankadia Thanas in Amreli district was in progress. Quarters were provided for the Fouzdar, Naib Fouzdar and the Jamadar of Dwarka town by making necessary additions and alterations to the Police lines.

Police Buildings.

162. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 13,36,315-12-7 against Rs. 13,39,852-5-4 in the previous year, showing a decrease of Rs. 3,536-8-9. The following table shows the details of expenditure :—

Expenditure.

No.	Heads of charges.	Budget allotment	Expenditure during 1924-25.	Expenditure during 1923-24.	Difference.
		Rs, a. p.	Rs, a. p,	Rs, a, p.	Rs, a, p,
1	Pay and Allowance.	13,43,193-11- 9	12,01,004- 6- 1	12,07,957- 2- 6	—6,952-12-5
2	Arms and accoutrements.	59,395- 0- 0	57,512-11-11	44,311- 1- 5	+13,201-10- 6
3	Contingencies.	75,259- 1-11	74,914- 8- 4	85,703-10- 0	—10,789- 1- 8
4	Dead Stock.	5,166-12- 3	2,884- 2- 3	1,880- 7- 5	+1,003-10-10
5	Temporary.	...	...	...	...
	Total,	14,83,014- 9-11	13,36,315-12- 7	13,39,852- 5- 4	—3,536- 8- 9

The increase in the expenditure on Arms and Accoutrements is due to the purchase of 303 rifles and the necessary quantity of ammunition from the British Arsenal for the use

of our Reserve Armed Force and that under the head of Dead-Stock is due to the construction of a bell-of-arm for the safe custody of the above rifles in the Baroda Head Quarters.

Crimes reported to the Police.

163. The total number of cognizable offences reported to the Police was 3,020 against 2,983 excluding cases taken up from the dormant file.

Fluctuations in crimes reported to the Police.

164. The following statement shows fluctuations in the crimes reported to the Police, district by district, for the last five years, excluding cases taken up from the dormant file.

Year.	Baroda.	Kadi.	Navsari.	Amreli.	Okhamandal.	Total.
1920-21	1,476	1,175	420	193	53	3,317
1921-22	1,327	1,125	343	186	20	3,001
1922-23	1,116	1,314	272	174	26	2,902
1923-24	1,074	1,359	277	252	21	2,983
1924-25	1,021	1,477	258	227	37	3,020

It would appear from the above that on the whole there is no appreciable increase in the number of new crimes reported to the Police during the year, the difference being only of 37 although Kadi and Okhamandal show a marked increase.

The following comparative statement gives particulars of all reported crimes district by district, under all classes for the last two years :—

Serial No.	Offences.	Baroda. Police.		Baroda. Magistrate.		Kadi. Police.		Kadi. Magistrate.		Navsari. Police.		Navsari. Magistrate.		Amreli. Police.		Amreli. Magistrate.		Okhamandal. Police.		Okhamandal. Magistrate.		Total. Police.		Total. Magistrate.	
		1924-25.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1924-25	1923-24.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1923-24,
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	CLASS I. OFFENCES AGAINST PERSON.																								
1	Murder	21+1 D. F.	9	...	...	23	22	...	1	2	4	...	...	3	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	49+1 D. F.	42	...	1
2.	Attempt at murder,	4	1	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	4	...	1
3	Culpable homicide.	9	10	...	...	8	9	...	...	8	5	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	27	25	...	...
4	Grievous hurt ...	53	41	8	4	53	79	15	10	13	24	1	4	10	22	3	3	2	1	...	...	131	165	27	21
5	Rape	2	4	...	...	2	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	15	...	...
6	Kidnapping and Abduction ...	17	8	3	...	13	11	...	...	1	...	...	...	3	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	34	21	3	1
7	Drugging	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	...
8	Causing death or grievous hurt by rash act	2	3	...	...	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	7	...	...
9	Miscellaneous ...	82	81	10	28	126	78	45	49	36	27	5	10	25	26	25	15	7	1	4	2	276	213	89	104
	Total ...	190+1 D. F.	158	21	32	226	212	60	61	60	60	6	14	43	63	28	19	9	3	4	2	528+1 D. F.	496	119	128

	CLASS II. OFFENCES AGAINST PROPERTY																								
10	Dacoity or preparation	6	16+3 D. F.	...	1	3+1 D.F	2	...	...	2	1	...	...	1	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	12+1 D. F.	25+3 D. F.	...	1
11	Robbery	18	24	1	...	29	29	3	3	1	3	...	...	6+2 D. F	15	4	2	...	1	...	1	54+2 D. F.	72	8	5
12	Theft with house-breaking	187	223+1 D. F.	...	...	142	209	2	...	49	43 +2 D.F.	...	...	53 +1 D.F.	36	...	...	5	4	...	...	436+1 D. F.	515+3 D. F.	2	...
13	Theft. Cattle...	11 +1 D. F.	12	...	...	47	42	4	...	4	5	...	...	5	6	...	2	2	...	...	1	69+1 D. F.	65	4	2
	Theft. Other...	232+ 1 D.F.	254	18	17	306	222	44	37	74	88	5	4	52	63	8	8	16	2	1	2	680+1 D. F.	629	76	70
14	Associating with a gang of criminals.	1	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	...	...
15	Receiving stolen property	7	7+1 D. F.	...	1	4	5	...	...	...	1	...	...	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	14+1 D. F.	...	1
16	Criminal breach of trust	18	16	6	9	14	18	15	17	7	2	...	3	6	3	10	4	...	1	...	2	45	40	31	35
17	Cheating	20	24	9	9	28	17	27	18	8	4	...	2	2	...	5	1	...	...	...	1	58	45	41	31
18	House-breaking or trespass	49	60+1 D. F.	2	7	39	39	3	4	12	9	...	...	7	24	6	5	1	...	2	2	108	132+1 D. F.	13	18
19	Miscellaneous ...	58	86	9	7	309	196	370	361	24	28	21	25	18	14	18	15	...	2	...	...	409	326	418	408
	Total...	607 +2 D. F.	724 +6 D. F.	45	51	921 +1 D.F	780	468	440	181	184 +2 D.F	26	34	153 +3 D.F	68	51	37	24	10	3	9	1,886 +6 D. F.	1,866 +8 D. F.	593	571

Serial No.	Offences.	Baroda.				Kadi.				Navsari.				Amreli.				Okhamandal.				Total.			
		Police.		Magistrate.		Police.		Magistrate.		Police.		Magistrate.		Police.		Magistrate.		Police.		Magistrate.		Police.		Magistrate.	
		1924-25.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1923-24.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	CLASS III–MISCELLANEOUS.																								
20	Public tranquility...	12	4	...	3	23	48	12	5	2	5	...	3	3	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	40	57	13	11
21	Harbouring offenders	5	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	1	...	...
22	Pretending to be a Government servant	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
23	Offences against coinage	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
24	Offences against currency notes, etc.	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	5	...	...
25	Offences against justice	7	8	...	...	5	5	...	1	1	3	...	...	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	16	17	...	1
26	Offences against marriage... ...	11	9	10	23	23	9	17	7	...	...	...	...	5	5	4	4	2	2	...	2	40	25	31	36
27	Other offences not specified above ...	187	169	1	4	279	305	3	10	14	25	55	42	22	15	...	1	1	2	...	...	503	516	59	57
	Total...	224	192	11	30	330	367	32	23	17	33	55	45	31	21	5	5	5	8	...	2	606	621	103	105
	Grand Total...	1,021 +3 D. F.	1,074 +6 D. F.	77	113	1477 +1 D.F.	1,359	560	524	258	277 +2 D.F.	87	93	227 +3 D.F.	252	84	61	37	21	7	13	3,020 +7 D. F.	2,983 +8 D.F.	815	804

Class I. Offences against person :—

Excluding cases reported to the Magistrates, there has been an increase of 32 during the year, the percentage of crimes under this class to the total number of crimes being 17·48 against 16·63 in the preceding year. There had been an increase of 32 in Baroda, 6 in Okhamandal and 14 in Kadi and a decrease of 20 in Amreli.

Class II. Offences against property :—

There has been an increase of 20, the percentage being 62·45 against 62·55 in the previous year. Taking districts separately, it would appear that there has been a decrease of 117 in Baroda, 3 in Navsari and 15 in Amreli and an increase of 141 in Kadi and 14 in Okhamandal.

Class III. Miscellaneous Offences :—

Under this class there has been a decrease of 15 on the whole, the percentage being 20·07 against 20·82 in the previous year. There was an increase of 32 in Baroda, and 10 in Amreli while Kadi, Navsari and Okhamandal show a decrease of 37, 16 and 4 respectively.

Proportion of Crime to Police.

165. The proportion of reported cognizable crimes to the Police employed in the prevention and detection of crime was 1·20 cases to one policeman as against 1·08 cases to one policeman in the previous year.

Arrears.

166. Besides the 3,020 cases reported to the police during the year, 7 cases were taken up fresh from the dormant file. This makes a total of 3,027 cases as against 2,991 in the previous year. 771 cases were pending with the police at the commencement of the year. Hence the total number of cases for disposal with the police during the year was 3,798 against 3,773.

Disposal of cases.

167. Of the 3,798 cases for disposal, no case was time-barred. 388 against 413 of the preceding year were false cases. 680 or 17·90 per-cent against 823 or 21·81 per cent were placed on dormant

file. 25 or 0·66 per cent against 22 or 0·58 per cent were compounded before trial. 788 or 20·75 per cent against 771 or 20·43 per cent remained on inquiry with the Police at the close of the year. 123 or 3·24 per cent against 163 or 4·32 per cent could not be detected or apprehended and the remaining 1,794 or 47·24 per cent against 1,581 or 41·90 per cent were committed for trial during the year.

Disposal of cases after commitment.

168. Besides 1,794 cases committed for trial to the magistrates, there were 282 cases pending from the list of the previous year. The total number of cases with magistrates for disposal during the year was, therefore, 2,076 against 1,809 in the preceding year. Of these 2,076 cases, 259 against 225 were either compounded or withdrawn in courts; 1,066 against 961 ended in conviction; 414 against 341 ended in acquittal, and 337 against 282 remained pending with magistrates at the close of the year.

The percentage of cases convicted to cases tried (total cases with magistrates minus those that remained pending at the close of the year) was 59·42 as against 62·93 in the previous year. Taking districts separately, the percentages of cases resulting in conviction were as follows :—

Baroda............75·45 as against 72·42
Kadi...............59·80 as against 58·83
Navsari............51·02 as against 51·67
Amreli.............55·03 as against 52·30
Okhamandal... 100 as against 60·00

Percentage of conviction in important cases.

169. Taking important offences separately, it would appear that out of 69 true cases of murder and culpable homicide, 67 were tried and 44 ended in conviction, the percentage of conviction being 63·76 as against 73·07 in the previous year. Out of 47 true cases of robbery, 30 were tried and 16 ended in conviction, the percentage being 53·33 against 61·29.

Out of 420 true cases of burglary, 117 were tried and 68 ended in conviction, the percentage being 58·80 against 72·55. Out of 559 true cases of theft, 403 were tried and 249 ended in conviction, the percentage being 61·79 against 68·02.

Property stolen and recovered.

170. Property was stolen in 1,153 cases out of 3,798 cases dealt with by the police during the year, and in 632 cases it was recovered. The alleged value of property stolen was Rs. 1,99,923 and that of property recovered was Rs. 47,612 as against Rs. 1,82,039 and 44,430 respectively in the preceding year. The percentage of recovery comes to Rs. 23·82 per cent as against Rs. 24·41 per cent. in the previous year. The percentage of cases in which property was recovered was 54·81 per cent as against 49·24 per cent in the preceding year. This shows that though the percentage of property recovered is nearly equal to that in the preceding year, the percentage of cases in which it was recovered has appreciably increased. There is, therefore, no slackness on the part of the police in the performance of their duties.

Number of persons arrested and their disposal.

171. The number of persons arrested in all the cases dealt with by the police during the year was 4,934 as against 4,157 in the previous year. Of these, 292 were disposed of before trial (i.e., 12 were released by the police, 278 were released by the magistrates, 2 died and none escaped before trial), leaving a balance of 4,642 persons of whom 3,326 were tried (1,565 were convicted and 1,761 were acquitted and discharged), 11 died and none escaped during trial. At the end of the year, 254 persons remained pending inquiry with the police and 1,051 pending trial with magistrates. The percentage of persons convicted to persons tried was 47·05 as against 50·85 in the previous year.

Magistrates' direct cases.

172. Magistrates' direct cases increased from 804 to 815 during the year. Of these, 789 were declared to be true cases. The district figures of true cases and the number of percentages of those that ended in conviction are given in the following comparative table :—

District.	1924–25. Number of true cases.	Number of cases ending in conviction.	Percentage of conviction.	1923-24. Number of true cases.	Number of cases ending in conviction.	Percentage of conviction.
Baroda ...	72	4	5·56	101	6	5·94
Kadi ...	560	19	3·39	524	8	1·51
Navsari ...	87	50	57·47	89	44	49·43
Amreli ...	62	3	4·83	48	2	4·17
Okhamandal.	6	...	...	10	3	30·00
Total ...	787	76	9·65	772	63	8·16

Caste of Criminals.

173. As usual Bhils, Kolis, Waghris and Mahomedans formed the majority of criminals.

Criminal Investigation Department.

174. Mr. Anandrao Sakharam Vaidya worked as an acting Chief Detective Officer throughout the year over and above his own duties as Criminal Investigation Sar Fouzdar.

Two officers of the grade of Naib Fouzdar were sent to Poona for being trained up in Short-hand writing in Vernacular and English. They had nearly completed their course by the end of the year.

There was no change in the strength of the Criminal Investigation department during the year, it being:—

1 Chief Detective Officer.
1 Sar Fouzdar.
3 Fouzdars.
5 Naib Fouzdars.
10 Constables.

The above strength does not include the staff of the Finger Print Bureau.

The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 20,252 during the year as against Rs. 22,667 in the previous year.

Account of the work.

175. The following is the account of the principal criminal work done by the Criminal Investigation department during the year:—

1. A rich Bania of Lachharas under Sankheda having died without signing his will, a distant relation of his got it forged after his death and registered. The Criminal Investigation department has completed the inquiries into this case and it will shortly come to court, the person who signed being offered pardon.

2. Inquiry by Criminal Investigation department is complete against the Navsari Indian Marriage Society which has swindled more than a lac of rupees from the whole of Gujarat. The accused will be committed to the court within a short time.

3. A theft case of an office clerk in Lalbag Palace was traced, inquiry into which led to the tracing of two other thefts in Kala-Bhavan. The accused was a Police Constable and was severally convicted.

4. The Menagerie section of the Public Park was losing a quantity of mutton which was being stealthily taken by a Public Park Pagi into the Bazar and sold. This fraud was traced on information and the Pagi was subsequently departmentally dealt with.

5. From the Baroda Post Office Savings Bank account of Mr. Chunilal Shivlal Desai a false party withdrew Rs. 500 by submitting a forged withdrawal form. The case was given to Criminal Investigation department for inquiry and as a result of the inquiries made, the accused was tactfully traced, arrested and sent to the Baroda Sessions Court where he was convicted The court and the department appreciated the work of the department in the case.

6. In a civil case of Savli Mahal, it was elicited that a forged document bearing a posthumous signature of a deceased person was produced by a party. The inquiry into

this matter was started by this Investigation Branch on receipt of information by the Commissioner of Police. Sanction for prosecution of the accused is applied for.

7. Pick--pocketting in the Friday Bazar was detected. The accused has been traced.

8. A bad livelihood case was prepared and committed against one Alarakha Ladji of Dehgam and he was bound down for a year.

9. As desired by the Commissioner of Police, departmental inquiries were made against certain Police officers who were suspected of resorting to oppression and extortion. The inquiry has resulted in the dismissal of the defaulters for their misbehaviour.

Besides the above work, the Criminal Investigation department did all other miscellaneous work of confidential and political nature as usual.

Progress of cases pending.

176. The following is the account of progress of cases pending from the previous year :—

1. The Malataj Ginning Factory Arson Case amounting to a fraud of Rs. 57,000 is partly in court and partly with Police. Three of the six accused are awaiting their extradition from Ahmedabad.

2. Theft from Jail Factory :—

The remaining cases were tried in court and ended in conviction, accused Himat Jibhai and Shanker Vaja getting 7 and 2 years rigorous imprisonment respectively Two cases of receiving stolen properties having sprung up from these were also treated and closed with conviction.

3. The case against the Manager, Agent of the Marriage, Life and Death Beneficial Corporation ended in conviction of both the accused who were find Rs. 400 and 900 respectively.

4. The forgery case of Mithadas is in progress in court and sanction is awaited for his prosecution.

5 The cheating cases against accused Subedar and Degaoker are progressing. The former has come to Baroda by extradition ; and the inquiries about the absconding accused Potdar are in progress.

Help rendered to the local police.

177. The local police were helped in the following among some other cases by the Investigation staff:–

1. Removal of iron safes from railway train. Accused were arrested and handed over to Baroda Taluka police.

2. Accused Garpare wanted since five years for a criminal breach of trust of the Baroda Municipality was arrested and handed over to police. The case against him has ended in conviction.

3. Theft of Rs. 62 from Songhad Vishist Panchayat. Accused Balwantrao was traced and made over to Songhad police. He has been convicted.

4. Burglary at the house of Mr. Bhise of Kathor. Help was given to the Kamrej Taluka police.

Help rendered to the Foreign Police.

178. The Criminal Investigation department rendered material help to the Foreign Police in the following cases:—

1. The Broach Police were helped in proving fabrication of documentary evidence in a murder case. They were also helped in tracing stolen property disposed of in Baroda.

Inquiries into this matter led to the tracing of a theft by the same accused in the city also, which case too, ended in conviction.

Help was also given to the Broach Police in a counterfeit coin case.

2. The Bombay Police were helped in tracing two stolen type-writers and the accused as well as the Mudamal of another theft case.

3. The Poona Criminal Investigation department was helped in a cheating case of Rs. 10,000 and also in a counterfeit coin case, the latter of which is known to have ended in conviction.

4. Inquiries were also made from time to time with regard to the origin of forged currency notes received from foreign officials.

179. The charge of the Finger Print Bureau remained with Mr. Anandrao Sakharam Vaidya, during the year. The strength of the Finger Print Bureau remained the same as was in the previous year, i.e., one Chief Operator, one Assistant Chief Operator and three Operators.

Finger Print Bureau.

180. The total number of Finger Print Slips on record at the beginning of the year was 24,653 and during the year 1,112 slips were received for record, thus making a total of 25,755. 90 slips of re-convicted habituals are deducted and hence the actual number of slips on record at the end of the year was 25,675. Of the total 1,112 slips that were received afresh, 714 were received from the State officials and 398 from Foreign Bureaux and Police Officers as against 793 and 238 respectively in the previous year.

Number of slips.

181. The number of slips sent to Foreign Bureaux for record was 202 against 317 in the preceding year.

Slips sent out.

182. 2,044 slips were received for trace during the year as against 1,848. Of the total slips received for trace, 1,452 slips were received from State Police officials and 592 from foreign officers as against 1,223 and 625 respectively in the previous year. Of these, 304 slips were traced as against 261 in the previous year giving a percentage of 14·87 per cent as against 14·12 in the preceding year. The Bureau sent 1,812 slips to other Bureau for trace, as against 1,922 in the previous year.

Slips received and sent out for trace.

183. Prisoner Dhiraji Galaji, a notorious member of Mirkhan's gang, of the Central Jail, who had escaped from custody and run down to Madras where he was wandering in Mahomedan attire under a false Mahomedan name was suspected by the Police there. His slip

The utility of interchanging of slips demonstrated.

was sent for search by the Madras Police and the said slip was found to tally with the original one in the Bureau record. This intimation was sent to Madras and steps were taken for his surrender here. Thus he isrestored to us now.

Officers summoned for expert opinion.

184. In 10 cases, the officers from the Bureau were summoned for giving expert opinion. Out of these, 3 were civil cases and 7 criminal.

Improvements made.

185. The following are some of the measures of reform and improvement introduced in the department:—

1. The Cinematograph Act was newly enacted and applied to the whole of Baroda State.

2. Havaldars, Constables, Swars and Daffedars who were given traveiling allowance at the rate of 2 annas per diem while doing their duty outside the limits of their Sar Fouzdar's Sub Division are now ordered to be paid travelling allowance at the rate of 4 annas per diem for duties outside the limits of their own Taluka.

3. Breech-loading arms presented in courts as Muddamal were up to this time handed over to the Light Field Battery by the courts concerned after the disposal of cases connected with these arms. As these arms are useful to the Police, orders have been passed by government to hand them over to the Police department henceforth.

4. Police lines at Padra have been taken in possession of the Police department in exchange for Bhutadi Zampa lines.

5. Public Conveyance Act has been applied to the Damnagar town.

6. The services of 37 men of the Camel Corps of 52 men engaged in Kadi district for use at the time of dacoities were dispensed with from 1-4-25.

7. A special officer has been appointed to investigate into the cases of arson and damage caused in several Talukas of the Kadi district where this mischief was assuming alarming forms.

8. Two Naib Fouzdars and two Havaldars who were sent to Bombay for being trained in traffic work have been engaged to train the other Police in traffic management on Bombay lines.

9. Two Naib Fouzdars were sent to Poona from Criminal Investigation department for being trained in English and Vernacular Stenography. They have since completed their course of training.

10. One Havaldar has been sent to Nasik Police Training School for being trained in Sub Inspector's course.

11. 200 rifles of 303 pattern have been purchased from the British Arsenal for use of the Special Armed Reserve in the Police Force, and 200 more have since been indented for.

12. A conference of Police officers was held at Baroda to discuss questions of importance and those leading to the improvement in the department.

13. A reciprocal arrangement for a period of 5 years was arrived at between this State and the British authorities for respecting motor licenses granted by each other in connection with the Agas-Borsad Road.

14. Reciprocal arrangement in the matter of surrendering Muddamal found from third parties and required for evidentiary purposes has been arrived at between His Highness' Government and the Marwar State.

15. Permission was granted by the Government of India to allow Police officers of this State to wear Indian Title badges attached to a brooch with working dress on ceremonial occasions.

G. Prisons.

Personnel.

186. Rao Bahadur B. A. Ghatge, Commissioner of Police also worked as the Inspector General of Prisons during the year.

Number of Jails and lock-ups.

187. The number of Jails and lockups continued to be the same, viz. 1 Central Jail, 4 District Jails, and 38 lock-ups.

188. The total number of admissions in all the Jails and lockups was 3,697 (3,535 males and 162 females) as against 3,750 (3,608 males and 122 females) in the preceding year.

Total number of admissions.

189. The total daily average number of prisoners in all the jails and lockups was 990 (971 males and 19 females) as against 998 (975 males and 23 females) in the previous year.

Total daily average.

190. The total number of convicts who were received in all the jails and lockups as sentenced during the year was 1,138 (1,103 males and 35 females) as against 1,169 (1,138 males and 31 females) in the preceding year.

Number of convicts sentenced during the year.

191. Of the 1,138 convicts sentenced during the year, 90·12 per cent were Hindus, 9·44 per cent were Mahomedans and ·44 per cent were of other religion as against 88·20, 11·46 and ·34 percent respectively in the preceding year.

Religion.

192. As usual, the ages between 15 and 40 contributed the largest number of convicts.

Age.

193. 17·66 per cent of the total number of convicts were literate, as against 16·68 of the previous year.

Education.

194. Ostensible labourers, cultivators and private servants formed, as usual, the largest portion of the jail population, their number together being 863 as against 1,302 in the previous year.

Occupation.

195. The offences with which the majority of prisoners were charged were thefts, burglary and hurt.

Offences.

196. Most of the sentences were, as usual, for 6 months and under.

Sentences.

197. The total expenditure during the year, excluding that of Police guards for lock-ups, amounted to Rs. 1,56,401 as against Rs. 1,54,085 in the previous year, showing an increase of Rs. 2,316 due to increase in the average jail population.

Expenditure.

198. The total earnings paid into the treasury on account of all sources of income from all jails and lock-ups amounted to Rs. 44,672 as against Rs. 31,789 in the preceding year.

Earnings.

199. The Thana System of sending selected prisoners of approved behaviour to the Model Farm and allowing them freedom was continued and was found to have worked smoothly and satisfactorily.

Thana System.

H. Registration.

200. The department was in the charge of the Sar Suba. Mr. S. K. Nayampalli, B A., LL.B., continued as Personal Assistant except for a short interval when Mr. A. K. Patel, B.A., L.L.B., acted for him. The Personal Assistant did the work of inspecting the Sub-Registrar's offices. The Personal Naib Subas of Baroda and Kadi and the Subas of Navsari and Amreli worked as ex-officio Registrars for their respective districts. The Commissioner of Okhamandal has also been invested with the powers of the Registrar so far as his jurisdiction is concerned.

Personnel.

201. The number of Sub-Registry offices was 44 as in the previous year.

Number of offices.

202. The following statement gives the number of documents received for registration, their aggregate value and the gross receipts and expenditure of the department for two years:—

Number of documents registered, receipts and expenditure.

Year.	Number of documents.	Aggregate value.	Gross receipts	Expenditure.
1	2	3	4	5
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1923-24	41,756	3,09,00,539	1,98,921	55,686
1924-25	43,158	2,91,30,548	2,01,545	54,013

203. From the above statement, it will be seen that there is an increase of 1,402 in the number of documents, while their aggregate value shows a decrease of Rs. 17,69,991. The gross receipts show an increase of Rs. 2,624 which can be accounted for by the increase in the number of documents. With a small decrease of Rs. 1,673 the expenditure remains the same. The increase of 1,402 documents during the year cannot be specifically accounted for. Baroda, Kadi and Amreli districts show an increase of 192, 1,912 and 89 while Navsari and Okhamandal show a decrease of 724 and 67 respectively over the last year. The reason for the decrease in the Navsari district is the special provision made for the Kaliparaj people of registering their documents with the permission of the Suba. The aggregate values of the documents in Baroda, Kadi and Amreli districts have increased while those in Navsari and Okhamandal show a great decrease. In the Navsari district alone there is a decrease of Rs. 28,78,672 which can be accounted for by the less aggregate value of the documents of sale and mortgage in that district. The decrease in the aggregate value of documents in the Okhamandal district is due to the less number of documents presented for registration in the year.

Causes of variation.

204. The following statement will show the classification of documents received for registration :—

Documents classified.

Nature of instruments.	1923-24.	1924-25.
1	2	3
Immoveable property:—		
(1) Compulsory.		
Gifts	403	415
Sales	19,750	20,027
Mortgages with possession	15,572	16,491
Mortgages without possession ...	2,295	2,140
Instruments of partition	560	594
Leases above 3 years	921	1,009
Other documents	1,166	1,347
Total ...	40,667	42,023
(2) Optional.		
Leases upto 3 years	221	222
Wills and authorities to adopt ...	408	440
Total of (1) & (2) ...	41,296	42,685
Moveable property :—		
(1) Compulsory.		
Money bonds above Rs. 1,000 ...	44	33
(2) Optional.		
Money bonds upto Rs. 1,000	60	56
Instruments of pledges with possession	16	12
Instruments of pledges without possession	20	24
Divorce	32	37
Other documents	288	311
Total ...	416	440
Total of (1) & (2) ...	460	473
Grand Total ...	41,756	43,158

205. The Personal Assistant inspected 22 Sub-Registry offices and paid surprise visits to 11 during the year as against 21 and 8 respectively during the previous year.

Inspection.

206. The special concession given to the Agricultural Banks in the State of having their documents registered without the payment of any kind of fees continued to be extended also to the co-operative societies. During the year, documents of the co-operative societies for the consolidation of Scattered Agricultural Holdings were also exempted from fees. 380 documents relating to such Banks and Societies were registered during the year as against 170 in the preceding year and the value of the remissions enjoyed by them amounted to Rs. 1,632-7-0 as against Rs. 682-2-0 of the preceding year.

Documents relating to Agricultural Banks and Co-operative Societies.

207. Marriages under the Local Civil Marriage Act IX of Samvat 1964 are required to be registered by the Sub-Registrars. During the year, 3 marriages were registered in the whole State. The total number of such marriages registered since the passing of the Act uptill now is 12.

Registration of marriages.

I. Court of Wards.

208. The work of this Branch was managed by the Sar Suba with Mr. R. R. Pawar as his Assistant.

The number of wards at the commencement of the year was 63; two more wards were added to this number, thus making the total of 65 at the end of the year.

Number of Wards.

209. The value of the properties managed amounted to Rs. 26,44,487-14-8 and their income to Rs. 2,56,290-5-9.

Properties of the Wards and their income.

210. Out of the total savings of Rs. 4,82,168-6-11, Rs. 3,05,224-12-6 were deposited in the Bank of Baroda, Rs. 10,933-6-3 in the Postal Savings Bank, Rs. 6,269-2-0 in Shares, Rs. 1,29,872-4-0 in Bonds, and the rest kept on hand.

Savings and Investments.

211. Arrangements for the education and health of the wards were carefully made.

Education of the wards.

212. Steps were taken to reduce the debt of the wards and the management of their properties was carefully looked after.

Management of the properties.

J. Religious and Charitable Institutions.

213. Mr. A. N. Datar, B.A., LL.B,, was in charge of the Devasthan Branch upto 13th February 1925. Since then the charge remained with Mr. R. H. Desai, B.A., LL.B., as Settlement Commissioner. The Barkhali Assistant, Mr. K. V. Uplap, B.A., LL.B., continued to assist him in the work of this Branch.

General control.

214. The number of the institutions under direct government management was 49, i.e. the same as last year. Two of these, viz: Kedareshwar Khichadi and Gyarmikarkhanas, were charitable institutions for maintenance of Hindu and Mahomedan destitutes respectively, in the city of Baroda. They were under the direct management of the Head Office while the rest were managed by the respective local officers. The total expenditure of these institutions was Rs. 81,522-0-7 as against Rs. 80,246-7-9 for the previous year.

Institutions under Government management.

215. The moveable and immoveable property belonging to the Institutions was Rs. 19,84,897-5-3 as against Rs. 19,04,373-9-2 in the previous year.

Properties of Institutions.

216. The details of the two funds. (1) General Fund standing in the name of the Sar Suba (Devasthan Adhikari) and (2) Reserve Fund, are shown in the following table:—

The General and the Reserve Fund.

Name of the Fund.	Amount in hand in the beginning of the year.	Contributions added during the year.	Total amount.	Expenditure.	Balance at the close of the year.
1	2	3	4	5	6
General Fund ...	3,61,036	45,305	4,06,341	30,546	3,75,795
Reserve Fund ...	6,146	7,291	13,437	9,312	4,125
Total ...	3,67,182	52,556	4,19,778	39,858	3,79,920

Use of Funds.

217. Extraordinary expenses of all the institutions over and above Budget grants, chiefly those of substantial repairs to their buildings, are met out of the Reserve Fund to which all contribute ratably, while the General Fund, which is made of the net savings of the institutions, is intended for religious and charitable objects of public utility.

Out of this General Fund Rs. 12,000 are spent every year on the maintenance of certain dispensaries in the Kadi district, Rs. 3,000 are spent every year on the maintenance of the Pattan Ayurvedic Pathshala and Rs. 2,450 and Rs. 300 are contributed towards the expenses of the Orphanage at Amreli and the Maharani Chimnabai Maternity Ward at Baroda respectively. The Amreli Sanskrit Pathshala used to receive Rs. 515 annually, but since this year an increase is made and Rs. 571-14-0 are contributed. Similarly the Baroda State Sanskrit Pathshala was paid Rs. 5,000 last year, but since this year Rs. 6,776 are to be contributed to this Institution. From this year Rs. 10 per month, i.e. Rs. 120 annually, are contributed towards the pay of the Upadeshak of Yavteshwar Mahadeo at Kadi, for doing the additional work of preaching to the depressed classes in the area.

The balance of the General Fund stood at Rs. 3,75,795 at the end of the year, of which Rs. 1,58,500 were invested in Government of India War Bonds, Rs. 30,000 in Ahmedabad Prantij Railway shares and Rs. 66,149 were advanced as loan. The rest of the balance Rs 1,21,146 was deposited in the Bank of Baroda, Rs 1,10,008 being kept as fixed deposits for a year, and the remaining Rs. 11,138 are in the current account.

Institutions under private management.

218. Religious and charitable institutions managed by private individuals under the general supervision of the State during the year numbered 4,343 enjoying an aggregate approximate grant of Rs. 1,85,425-15-8 in the form of Inami villages and cash allowances. Of these, those having an annual income of Rs. 200 and above are required by the Charitable Endowment Act to get their Budget sanctioned by government every five years. The managers of 112 such institutions have tendered their Budgets.

Itinerant religious preachers.

219. All the five itinerant religious preachers at Amreli, Bechraji, Sidhpur, Kadi and Chandod were working during the year.

Inspection.

220. 25 institutions were visited by the Barkhali Assistant during the year.

Dwarka and Beyt Schemes.

221. Both the Dwarka and Beyt schemes which are started for the official management of the temples at Dwarka and Beyt are working smoothly.

Construction of Math.

222. Construction of the ancient Math of Shree Sharada Peeth, the chief seat of Jagat Guru Shree Shankaracharya at Dwarka is nearing completion. The expenditure incurred upto this time amounts to Rs. 28,000.

Shankha Narayan Temple.

223. The posts of Brahmachari for both the Shankha Narayan Temple and Satyabhamaji Temple are still vacant as no suitable persons have yet come forward. Sevak

Balkrishnadas who was installed as a Brahmachari in the Shankha Narayan Temple last year has resigned on account of his prospect of getting the Gadi of Narayan Sarowar in Cutch. The affairs of Shankha Narayan Temple are, therefore, at present under government management and are looked after by the Beyt Mahalkari.

In addition to the above work, the Main Branch keeps the accounts of business transactions with Banks in Bombay. These transactions amounted to Rs. 16,97,664–9–10 in remittances and Rs. 17,01,232–10–5 in withdrawals.

228. The Compilation Branch is under the direct supervision of the Assistant Accountant General, Main Branch. The final accounts of the Raj are compiled in this branch from the monthly statements received from the Pre–Audit Office as well as the monthly accounts received from the Mahal and other treasuries.

Compilation Branch.

229. The Civil Audit Branch, which is also under the supervision of the Assistant Accountant General, Main Branch, examines after the Post–Audit System, all the vouchers with the exception of those relating to the offices in the city and to certain departments viz. the Public Works, the Railway and the Military.

Civil Audit Branch.

230. The Stamp Branch, which is also looked after by the Assistant Accountant General, Main Branch, supervises the General Store of Stamps and supplies stamps to sub–depots and vendors in the city. The Stamp revenue during the year amounted to Rs. 12,10,938 as against Rs. 11,97,352 during the previous year.

Stamp Branch.

231. Controlled by a separate Assistant Accountant General, the Pre–Audit Branch, before authorising payments, examines the vouchers of all the offices in the city. The vouchers relating to the Military department received from the Main Army Office at Baroda as well as those received from the Mahals and other treasuries are also examined in this office. The total transactions covered by this inspection including adjustments during the year stood at Rs. 7,54,34,258 on both sides of the accounts.

Pre-Audit Branch.

232. The Inspection Branch inspects the accounts of all the departments except the Military, the Public Works and the Railway by actually taking stock of treasure and scrutinizing local

Inspection Branch.

accounts. The accounts of the estates of wards under government management are inspected by this branch. The Assistant in charge of this office travelled for 288 days and inspected 463 offices and institutions during the year.

Local Boards Inspection.

233. Owing to the transfer of Audit control over the Local Boards to the P. W. Audit Branch, the distribution of work, which was made in 1923-24 among the four sections, and found unsuitable, had to be again revised and rearranged as under :—

(1) Kadi and Amreli Local Board Audit Section.

(2) Baroda and Naosari Local Board Audit Section.

(3) Sudhrai Inspection Branch, Section A.

(4) Sudhrai Inspection Branch, Section B.

The work entrusted to these sections is as under :— No (1) and No. (2) do the work of auditing the accounts of all the Local Boards and muster rolls and vouchers below Rs. 10 of all the P. W. divisions; with No. 3 rests the work of auditing the accounts of the Baroda City Municipality and all the Sudhrais and Vishishtha Panchayats of the Baroda district; the accounts of all other Sudhrais and Vishishtha Panchayats of the Raj are audited by section No. 4. The sections (1) and (2) are under the control of the Assistant Accountant General, P. W. Branch, and (3) and (4) are under the control of the Main Branch.

Public Works Audit Branch.

234. The Public Works Audit Branch exercises audit control over the accounts of the Public Works department and other departments of the State so far as the expenditure charges under the head "Buildings" in the accounts of the Raj are concerned. It has also the audit control over the accounts of all the Local Boards.

Railway Audit Office.

235. The Railway Audit Office audits and keeps accounts of the Railway department. During the year Mr. M. V. Naidu continued as Chief Auditor

236. In the civil departments 134 new pensions were sanctioned and 108 ceased through death. At the close of the year the total number of civil pensioners, was 1,711, drawing an aggregate annual pension of Rs. 3,85,873, Gratuities amounting to Rs. 1,609 were awarded to 25 persons. In the Military department 84 new pensions were sanctioned and 30 ceased through death. The total number of military pensioners at the end of the year was 986. The annual pension drawn by them amounted to Rs. 1.12,206-12. Gratuities amounting to Rs. 33,617-15-0 were awarded to 80 persons.

Pensions and gratuities.

237. The Accountant General receives from the various departments the statements of estimated receipts and expenditure for the succeeding year by the end of January. After scrutinising the statements, the budget is prepared and then submitted to government by the middle of April so as to leave about 12 to 14 weeks for its consideration by government.

Budget.

238. The total receipts and disbursements during the year, as compared with those of the previous year are given in the following statements:—

Receipts and Disbursements.

Disbursements.

No.	Heads.	1923-24.	1924-25.	Increase.	Decrease.
1	2	3	4	5	6
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1	Land Revenue ...	21,88,642	20,93,865	...	94,777
2	Other Establishments	1,73,921	1,89,080	15,159	...
3	Forests	1,29,523	1,21,432	...	8,091
4	Stamps	79,560	84,971	5,411	...
5	Registration... ...	52,672	53,796	1,124	...
6	Tribute	...	59	59	...
7	Interest	53,921	24,308	...	29,613
8	Opium	84,113	42,778	...	41,335
9	Palace	20,29,746	20,26,625	...	3,121
10	Huzur Rajkarbhar...	7,87,925	7,78,383	...	9,542
11	Judicial	4,42,549	4,44,110	1,561	...
12	Police	14,37,658	14,09,372	...	28,286
13	Jail	96,045	1,09,371	13,326	...
14	Education	28,99,235	30,56,866	1,57,631	...
15	Medical	5,75,736	6,41,196	65,460	...
16	Local Boards and Vishishta Panchayats	7,45,291	2,48,154	...	4,97,137
17	Public Works ...	24,69,719	35,20,083	10,50,364	...
18	Army	23,92,074	24,07,715	15,641	...
19	Devasthan	2,37,306	2,23,006	...	14,300
20	Assamdar	4,97,818	4,96,041	...	1,777
21	Pension	4,01,117	3,98,543	...	2,574
22	Marriage	1,38,407	...	...	1,38,407
23	Extraordinary ...	4,639	61,720	57,081	...
24	Miscellaneous ...	9,76,837	9,99,701	22,864	...
	Total...	1,88,94,454	1,94,31,175	14,05,681	8,68,960
	Net increase ...	...	...	5,36,721	...

Increase under receipts.

239. The main heads which show appreciable increase under receipts are:—

Land Revenue :—Rs. 11,00,803.

Due to

(1) recovery of past arrears in the Baroda and Kadi districts.

(2) sale of land in the Baroda district.

Taxes :—Rs. 47,860.

Due to greater realization of Income Tax.

Forests :—Rs. 1,26,413.

Due to the

(1) increase under timber owing to the recent adoption of the thinning operations,

(2) abnormal rise of revenue in lac,

(3) sale proceeds of the second crop of the last year.

Abkari :—Rs. 4,36,511.

Due to the

(1) increase in duty rates in some parts of the Naosari district,

(2) heavy license fee,

(3) higher bids realized in auction,

(4) tapping of more trees for drawing Toddy.

Customs :—Rs. 13,590.

Due to past arrears against cotton excise duty.

Stamps :—Rs. 13,586.

Due to greater sale of court fee and documentary stamps.

Tribute and Fixed Jamabandi:—Rs. 61,334.

Due to

(1) the adjustment of amounts of remissions granted to the Banaskantha (Palanpur) and Mahikantha for the St. year 1968,

(2) recovery of past arrears.

Interest :—Rs. 65,431. Due to interest for the last year being realized during the year.

Opium :—Rs. 29,529. Due to increase in consumption.

Education:—Rs. 38,549. Mainly due to the increase in the income of fees in the College, English Schools and the Kala-bhavan.

Jail :—Rs. 25,170. Increase in receipts under the head—Garden and Factory Labour.

Public Works:—Rs. 1,18,756. Mainly due to the adjustment of the famine expenditure in Amreli division being made in the year.

Miscellaneous:—Rs. 2,58,041. Due to—

(1) greater income of P. W. department.

(2) greater income of Railway department.

(3) greater realizations of receipts and contributions from the public on account of the Medical department.

(4) deposits unclaimed.

(5) miscellaneous income of the departments.

240. The head which shows appreciable decrease under receipts is:—

Decrease under receipts.

Irrigation:—Rs. 27,024. It is due to less realization of the income of lands and the shortage of water in tanks on account of scarcity of rain.

241. The heads which show an appreciable increase under disbursements are:—

Increase under disbursements.

Other Establishments:—Taxes—Rs. 15,159. Due to refund of Income Tax.

Jail :—Rs. 13,326. Due to expenditure under the heads Establishment, Guarding, Building Contingencies and Dead Stock.

Education:—Rs. 1,57,631. Mostly due to the periodical increments in the salaries of servants of the department, revision of staff in the Kala-bhavan, appointment of an Oriental Librarian and Editor, G. O. Series, and purchase of Nepalese Collections for Museum worth Rs. 50,000.

Medical :—Rs. 65,460. Due to the following main reasons:—

(1) Opening of the post of the House Physician.

(2) The increase of the post of the Female Sub Assistant Surgeon on the staff of the State General Hospital.

(3) Opening of the Countess of Dufferin Wards.

Public Works:—Rs. 10,50,364. Due to the expenditure of the Beyt Harbour works being charged to the P. W. department. The expenditure is controlled by the Railway department.

Extra-ordinary:—Rs. 57,081. Due to adjustment of the amounts of the last year.

Miscellaneous:—Rs. 22,864. Due to the following main reasons:—

(1) Refund of terminal tax.

(2) Grade increments to the staff, increase in contingencies and grants to the Municipalities, in the Sanitary department.

Decrease under disbursements.

242. The heads which show an appreciable decrease under disbursements are:—

Land Revenue:—Rs. 94,777. Due to less expenditure on account of compensation for land, trees, etc., and salaries of Patel Talatis.

Interest:—Rs. 29,613. No loan was borrowed during the year.

Opium:—Rs. 41,335. Due to less cultivation of opium.

Local Boards and Vishisthа Panchayats:—Rs. 4,97,137. Due to less expenditure being incurred towards Improvement Trust and less expenditure being incurred by the Panchayats for the P. W. Works.

Marriage:—Rs. 1,38,407. There being no marriage in the Ruling Family, no expenditure was incurred under this head.

Financial position of the Raj.

243. The following table shows the financial position of the Raj at the close of the year, as compared with that of the previous year:—

Particulars.	1923-24.	1924-25.
Assets.	Rs.	Rs.
Cash Balances	45,22,061	40,68,043
Fixed Deposits	46,00,000	92,00,000
Investments including amounts spent on Railways and reproductive Public Works	7,24,38,598	7,38,06,144
Total Assets	8,15,60,659	8,70,74,187
Liabilities	67,34,533	89,17,862
Net Assets	7,48,26,126	8,01,56,325
Increase	53,30,199	

244. It may be noted here that the State has uptill now invested about Rs. 4,29,19,455 in Railways and about Rs. 53,87,564 in reproductive public works like irrigation which, during the year, brought in a revenue of Rs. 18,46,778 and 37,548 respectively, yielding a return of about 4·33 and ·61 per cent. respectively on capital.

State investment.

245. The statement given above will show that the financial position of the Raj is stronger this year by about 53 lakhs as compared with that of the last year.

Financial position stronger.

246. In addition to the regular work of the department, the Accountant General had to work as a member of the State Legislative Council for the whole of the year and as a member of the State Executive Council till 30–9–24.

Additional duties of the Accountant General.

247. The receipt and payment work of the City and the Mahals at Naosari, Amreli, Mehsana, Patan, Petlad, Dabhoi, Sidhpur and Karjan where the Bank of Baroda has its branches, has been discharged by the Bank satisfactorily.

The work of the Baroda Bank satisfactory.

248. The following statement will show the amount of work done by the Accounts department during the year :—

Work of the Accounts department.

Name	Matters disposed.	Vouchers examined.
Main Branch	20,636	...
Compilation Branch	1,146	10,661
Civil Audit	22,305	77,830
Pre–Audit	907	43,055
Inspection	354	...
P. W. Audit Branch including Local Boards	15,835	57,036
Sudhrai Inspection Branch—		
Section A	748	5,034
Section B	987	7,613
Railway Audit Office	10,112	8,564

CHAPTER IV.

REVENUE AND SETTLEMENT.

A. Land Revenue Proper.

(a) ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS.

249. The post of the Sar Suba was held by the following officers :—

Personnel.

Name.	From	To
Anant Narayan Datar, B.A.,LL.B., A.M. (Col.).	1-8-24 10-7-25	6-4-25 31-7-25
Ramlal Hiralal Desai, B.A.,LL.B. ...	7-4-25	9-7-25

The post of the Naib Sar Suba was held by Mr. Bhaskar Kashinath Bhate, B.A. (Cantab.), throughout the year.

250. The Sar Suba toured for 162 days and inspected the following offices :—

Inspection done by the Sar Suba.

(a) Sankheda, Dehgam and Songadh Mahal offices.

(b) Pattan and Dabhoi Sub-Division Naib Suba's offices, and

(c) Naosari Prant Suba office.

The total number of villages visited by him was 81.

Along with the ordinary work, the Sar Suba was specially ordered to enquire into, and submit a report regarding the complaints of the Petlad Taluka people in connection with the Revision Settlement of the Taluka. As in this connection he had to visit not only all the villages (except one) but to see personally the condition of the irrigation wells, he had to be out of Baroda for nearly 3 months and urgent head-quarters work during that period was attended to first by Mr. R. R. Shirgaokar, B.A.,LL.B., and then by Mr. T. R. Kotwal, B.A.,LL.B.

The posts of District Officers.

251. The posts of the four Subas and of the Commissioner, Okhamandal, were held by the following officers:—

District.	Names of Officers.	Period during which the charge was held. From	To
1	2	3	4
Baroda ...	Mr. S. V. Mukerjea, B.A. (Oxon.), F.R.S.S. (London)	1- 8-24	15- 8-24
		20- 8-24	13- 1-25
		18- 3-25	21- 3-25
		26- 3-25	
		30- 3-25	13- 7-25
		20- 7-25	31- 7-25
	Mr. Pilajirao V. Gaekwad.	16- 8-24	19- 8-24
		1- 2-25	6- 2-25
		22- 3-25	25- 3-25
		27- 3-25	29- 3-25
		16- 7-25	19- 7-25
	Mr. J. N. Patel, B.A., LL.B.	14- 1-25	31- 1-25
		7- 2-25	17- 3-25
Kadi ...	Mr. M. K. Nadkarni, B.A., LL.B.	1- 8-24	13- 4-25
		1- 5-25	3- 5-25
		19- 7-25	31- 7-25
	Mr. V. Y. Kashalkar, M.A., LL.B.	14- 4-25	30- 4-25
	Mr. J. N. Patel, B.A., LL.B.	4- 5-25	18- 7-25
Navsari ...	Mr. Manilal B. Nanavati, B.A., LL.B.	1- 8-24	8- 2-25
		21- 2-25	31- 7-25
	Mr. Damajirao V. Gaekwad, B.A. (Oxon).	9- 2-25	20- 2-25
Amreli ...	Mr. M. M. Sitole, B.A., Bar-at-law.	1- 8-24	2- 8-24
		29- 9-24	31- 7-25
	Mr. V. G. Rane, B.A. (Oxon.)	3- 8-24	28- 9-24
Okhamandal	Col. Shiv Raj Singh, B.A.	1- 8-24	18-10-24
		18-12-24	2- 5-25
		10- 7-25	18- 7-25
	Mr. S. U. Lakhia, B.A. ...	19-10-24	17-12-24
		3- 5-25	9- 7-25
	Mr. N. S. Sinde, Bar-at-law.	19- 7-25	31- 7-25

252. The following table shows the number of days travelled and villages inspected by the respective heads of the districts :—

Touring done by Subas.

District.	Number of days.	Number of villages visited.
Baroda	118	82
Kadi	143	14
Naosari	172	194
Amreli	126	69
Okhamandal ...	90	All the villages of Okhamandal.

Thus the touring of all the Subas was satisfactory, that of the Naosari Suba particularly showing greater activity and a larger number of villages visited due to his paying special attention to the requirements of the Kali Paraj people and their amelioration.

(b) GENERAL CONDITION.

253. The following table gives the distribution of rainfall during the year as compared with that of the preceding year and the decennial average, showing that it very nearly approached the average except in Amreli and Okhamandal :—

Rain-fall.

District.	Decennial average.	1923–24.	1924–25.
Baroda	29·55	18·40	24·69
Kadi	25·43	15·26½	21·14
Navsari	50·60	44·2	54·76
Amreli	18·33	11·92	15·58
Okhamandal ...	11·7½	4·27	6·78½

254. The yield of the principal crops in annas was as under :—

Yield of crops.

District.	Rice.		Bajri.		Juwar.		Cotton.	
	1923-24.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1923-24	1924-25.
Baroda ...	4	9	7	9	6	9	9	11
Kadi ...	...	4-6	4-9	8-3	3	8-3	2-6	6-6
Naosari ...	12	12	8	8	12	12	12	12
Amreli ...	4	8	6	10	9	10	8	9
Okhamandal	...	...	1	4	1	4	...	...

255. The following prices of food stuffs prevailed during the year as compared with those of the preceding year. The figures represent the number of lbs. sold per rupee :—

Prices of food stuffs.

District.	Rice.		Bajri.		Juwar.		Pulse.		Wheat.	
	1923-24.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1924-25.
Baroda	11½	13½	14	14½	18	17½	12½	12	10½	9½
Kadi	12½	11	16¼	16¾	16¼	18½	8	10	15½	12¾
Naosari	10	12	10	10	16	16	8	10	10	8
Amreli	9	9	15	17	19	20	8	8	14	12
Okha-mandal	8	8	15	15	18	14	11	12	11	10

The year was, on the whole, a prosperous one in Baroda, Kadi and Naosari districts ; while Amreli and Okhamandal were rather badly off as can be seen from the rainfall figures which were much below the decennial average. These two districts were, therefore, liberally treated by a grant of a partial suspension of land revenue and in Okha, where

unfortunately famine conditions have been prevailing almost every year during the last few years, land revenue was also remitted in the case of Khatedars paying an assessment of Rs. 20 and below. Even the collection of local cess was suspended in extreme cases of hardship. In Okha, further relief was granted by remitting the import duty on grass and cotton seeds. A sum of Rs. 35,000 was sanctioned as Tagavi, free of interest ; and 7,00,000 (seven lakhs) lbs. of grass were imported from Dhari under Amreli and sold at concession rates to the cultivators. Forest fees on "Cheer" were also remitted. The stringency of the Compulsory Education Act was relaxed and the execution of civil decrees against agriculturists was suspended. Labour was found for the people at the Adatra Harbour Works and the pearl-fisheries.

(c) LAND REVENUE.

256. During the year, the number of government and alienated villages was as under :

Number of government and alienated villages.

District.	1923-24.		Total.	1924-25.		Total.
	Government villages.	Alienated villages.		Government villages.	Alienated villages	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Baroda	787	62½	849½	786	63½	849½
Kadi	1,071½	80½	1,152	1,071½	80½	1,152
Naosari	945	38	983	945	38	983
Amreli	227	25	252	227	25	252
Okhamandal ...	39	4	43	39	4	43
Total ...	3,069½	210	3,279½	3,068½	211	3,279½

The increase under the head of the alienated villages and the corresponding decrease under the other head is on account of the grant of one village in the Padra Mahal to Shrimant Udaya Singh Rao Gaekwad.

257. The area of land in the five districts was as follows :—

Area of land.

District.	1923-24.	1924-25.
	Bighas.	Bighas.
Baroda...	20,92,321	20,92,321
Kadi	33,15,103	33,22,452
Naosari	19,72,164	19,72,166
Amreli	11,73,311	11,73,328
Okhamandal	2,99,500	2,99,500
Total ...	88,52,399	88,59,767

The increase in the Kadi district was the result of survey operations carried on in certain Ankadia villages while that in Naosari and Amreli, being insignificant, calls for no remarks.

258. The area of land relinquished and of that brought under cultivation during the year as compared with that of the preceding year was as follows :—

Area of land relinquished and brought under cultivation.

District.	Land relinquished in Bighas.		Land brought under cultivation in Bighas.	
	1923-24.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1924-25.
Baroda	419	107	1,786	2,963
Kadi...	7,069	1,491	18,809	16,874
Naosari	349	121	1,610	6,687
Amreli	1,993	1,875	6,501	8,146
Okhamandal ...	421	212	831	1,076
Total ...	10,251	3,806	29,537	35,746

259. The following table gives the statistics of the transfer of land by the cultivators during the year as compared with those of the preceding year :—

Transfer of land.

Mode of transfer.	1923-24.		1924-25.	
	Persons.	Bighas.	Persons.	Bighas.
(1) Inheritance ...	8,215	1,41,944	7,446	1,22,646
(2) Partition ...	48	352	95	713
(3) Gift	378	1,577	559	3,232
(4) Mortgage ...	1,265	8,888	73	581
(5) Redemption ...	71	381	46	282
(6) Sale	12,922	1,10,425	14,643	1,31,965
(7 Other causes ...	1,543	14,482	1,170	12,274
Total ...	24,442	2,78,049	24,032	2,71,693

260. The following table gives the demand and realisation of land revenue for the year and the preceding year :—

Realisation.

District.	1923-24. Demand.	1923-24. Realisation.	1923-24. Per-centage	1924-25. Demand.	1924-25. Realisation.	1924-25. Per-centage
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	
Baroda...	46,20,215	43,78,116	94	46,90,762	46,35,652	99
Kadi ...	37,48,448	34,29,746	91	38,31,476	37,61,186	98
Naosari...	19,82,616	19,75,466	99	19,85,281	19,71,046	99
Amreli	9,31,569 less 1,62,464 amount suspended =7,69,105	7,63,084	99	9,37,507 less 1,13,660 amount suspended =8,23,847	8,20,747	99
Okha-mandal	41,853 less 32,682 amount suspended =9,171	8,035	88	43,706 less 23,360 amount suspended =20,346	4,142 (Actual recovery) +14,745 (amount remitted) = 18,887	20
Total.	1,13,24,701 less 1,95,146 amount suspended =1,11,29,555	1,05,54,447	95	1,14,88,732 less 1,37,020 amount suspended =1,13,51,712	1,11,92,773 (Actual recovery) +14,745 amount remitted =1,12,07,518	99

Owing to defective rain-fall in certain areas of Amreli district and Okhamandal again in the year, collection of revenue was partially suspended and total remissions were granted to Khatedars paying less than Rs. 20 as assessment as shown in the statement above. Taking these facts into consideration, the collection in these two districts must be considered satisfactory. The other districts too show satisfactory collections.

261. The outstanding arrears at the close of the year, as compared with those of the preceding year were :—

Arrears at the close of the year.

District.	At the close of 1923-24.	At the close of 1924-25.
	Rs.	Rs.
Baroda	82,152	41,938
Kadi	6,90,327	6,71,373
Naosari	36,282	34,738
Amreli	1,31,338	2,29,650
Okhamandal	57,391	68,798
Total...	9,97,490	10,46,497

The increase of arrears in Okhamandal and Amreli was due to the collection of revenue being partially suspended as mentioned above. The other districts have succeeded in reducing the figure to some extent.

262. The following comparative table will show what coercive measures were employed for the realisation of revenue demands :—

Coercive measures.

Measures.	1923-24.	1924-25.
1	2	3
1. Notices	18,756	12,724
2. Fines	669	852
3. Sales of land	30	79
4. Sales of immoveable property other than land	51	56
5. Sales of moveable property	13	14
6. Arrests	182	192
7. Attachment of Barkhali lands	77	42
8. Attachment of Sarkari lands	1,111	1,471
9. Resumption and forfeiture	...	1
10. Cases in which land was declared unoccupied as there was no bidder ...	1	...
11. Forfeiture of government land	37	39
Total...	20,927	15,470

(d) Local Cess

263. The following table shows the demand and realisation of local cess during the year as compared with those of the preceding year :—

Local cess.

District.	1923-24. Demand.	1923-24. Collection.	Percentage.	1924-25. Demand.	1924-25. Collection.	Percentage.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	
Baroda	3,45,556	3,41,215	98	3,47,260	3,46,452	99
Kadi	2,86,167	2,83,489	99	2,81,342	2,77,076	98
Naosari	1,52,565	1,51,862	99	1,48,042	1,47,509	99
Amreli ...	74,022 less 6,787 amount suspended =67,235	66,234	89	73,248 less 3,895 amount suspended =69,353	69,078	99
Okhamandal	4,109 less 2,475 amount suspended =1,634	1,318	80	4,437 less 3,050 amount suspended =1,387	499	36
Total...	8,62,419 less 9,262 amount suspended = 8,53,157	8,44,118	99	8,54,329 less 6,945 amount suspended =8,47,384	8,40,614	99

(e) Income Tax.

264. The following table shows the demand and realisation of Income Tax during the year as compared with those of the preceding year :—

Income Tax.

District.	1923-24. Demand.	1923-24. Collection.	Percentage.	1924-25. Demand.	1924-25. Collection.	Percentage.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	
Baroda	2,36,252	2,28,555	96	2,05,155	1,97,490	96
Kadi	1,20,370	1,15,159	95	2,13,831	2,02,131	94
Naosari	37,868	36,659	96	43,447	40,927	95
Amreli	18,713	18,318	98	20,203	19,791	98
Okhamandal ...	9,641	8,948	93	6,927	5,652	82
Total...	4,22,844	4,07,639	96	4,89,563	4,65,991	95

The increase is due to the careful scrutiny of accounts and correct assessment of the tax by the special staff maintained for the purpose.

B. Attached Estates.

Number of estates and causes of attachment.

265. The following table shows the number of estates under attachment at the beginning and close of the year and the causes which led to their attachment:—

No.	Causes of attachment.	Estates under attachment at the beginning of the year.	Estates under attachment at the close of the year.
1	2	3	4
1	Under the Guardian and Wards Act ...	56	65
2	Mortgaged to Government for loans ...	41	33
3	Attached for arrears of revenue ...	23	18
4	Attached owing to disputes among holders	15	12
5	Attached owing to mismanagement of temples	82	79
6	Attached pending mutation of names ...	12	11
7	Attached for protection of Government share	3	4
8	Attached as properties of temples under Government management	14	14
9	Attached for other reasons	61	68
	Total ...	307	304

The number of estates newly attached is 29 and of those released from attachment is 32.

Demand and collection of attached estates.

266. The following table shows the number of estates under attachment, the annual demand, realisation and arrears for the year, as compared with those in the preceding year:—

Year.	No. of estates.	Demand.			Collection.		
		Past.	Current.	Total.	Past.	Current.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1923-24	307	1,18,868	4,97,726	6,16,594	43,218	4,49,167	4,82,385
1924-25	304	1,70,211	5,36,756	7,06,967	47,537	5,16,429	5,63,966

Year.	No. of estates	Arrears.			Over-collection.		
		Past.	Current.	Total.	Past.	Current.	Total.
1	2	9	10	11	12	13	14
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1923-24	307	78,043	54,446	1,32,490	2,394	5,887	8,281
1924-25	304	1,23,247	23,160	1,46,407	572	2,834	3,406

Number of estates and period of attachment.

267. The following table shows the number of years for which the several estates have continued under attachment:—

Under one year.	Number of estates under attachment for more than							Total.
	One year.	Two years.	Three years.	Four years.	Five years.	Ten years.	Fifteen years.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
43	59	20	21	22	79	21	39	304

C. Compensation Branch.

268. During the year, the compensation work was done by the Revenue Naib Subas as before.

Compensation.

The City Improvement Trust having been wound up on 31st October 1924, the Compensation Branch attached to the Trust was transferred to the Revenue department under the supervision of the Suba, Baroda district.

The accompanying statement will supply details regarding the work done during the year with comparative figures for the preceding year :—

Name of the District.	No. of cases disposed of.	Area of land compensated for.		Kothli Santh.	Amount of award in Rs.	Area of land given in exchange.		Amount awarded for property other than land.
		Bighas.	Sq. feet.			Bighas.	Sq. feet.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Baroda.	206	48- 4-10	51,311- 5	5-0-0	66,698-14-10	...	...	26,335- 6- 1
Kadi.	191	20-12- 0	75,975-11¾	...	1,08,156- 9- 8	1-12	...	29,031- 1- 5
Naosari.	69	14-16- 1¾	47,147½	...	3,868- 4- 5	...	...	477-14- 9
Amreli.	41	4- 0-11	92 645	...	933- 4- 3	...	...	523- 2- 5
Okhamandal.	1	...	89-12	...	115- 0- 0	...	...	...
Total for 1924-25...	508	87-13- 2¾	2,67,167½-28¾	5-0-0	1,79,772-1- 2	1-12	...	56,367- 8- 8
Figures for the year 1923-24...	404	196- 8-13¼	6,98,227-2¾	...	54,996-11- 4	3- 0	...	22,623-14- 4

D. Boundary Branch.

Personnel.

269. During the year, Mr. G. V. Gokhale, L.Ag, was in charge of this branch. He continued to be the Baroda delegate under the Bombay Baroda Boundary Convention. The Railway Demarcation work and the supervision of the Political Branch was also entrusted to him. There was no change in the strength of the establishment except that the Simada Kamdar's post was kept vacant.

Work done.

270. The following statement shows the important work done in this branch as compared with that of the last year:—

Serial No.	Description of work.	Past year's work.	Present year's work.	Increase or Decrease.
1	2	3	4	5
1	Boundaries surveyed.	32	103	+71
2	Boundaries verified and settled.	40	172	+132
3	Boundaries inspected.	100	129	+29
4	Cases in Boundary Commissioner's Court.	...	1	+1
5	Appeals in N. D. Commissioner's Court.	...	1	+1
6	Copies of maps and field-books supplied to Taluka Cutcherries.	291	235	-56
7	Taluka Records examined.	5	2	-3
8	Tajvijdars Daftars examined.	2	22	+20
9	Boundaries inspected by local officers.	1,046	1,234	+188
10	Miles of Railway Demarcation.	65	57	-8

There is an alround increase under all the important items. The decrease under item 6 is due to having no arrears in the office.

271. The case under item 4 and 5 was the boundary dispute between Ambod (Vijapur)-Badpura (Varsoda). It was entrusted to the Boundary Commissioner for disposal. He gave his decision in favour of Ambod, a village under Vijapur Taluka. This decision being against Varsoda, the Mahikantha authorities appealed to the Commissioner, Northern Division, who confirmed the decision of the lower court. Thus the case was finally decided in our favour.

Work in the Boundary Commissioner's Court.

272. One important reform was proposed as regards Vernacular correspondence with Kathiawar States and it was assented to by the States concerned. The old Tumar system under this change gave way to the letter system in vogue in English correspondence. This stopped one source of creating complications in such cases.

Tumar system stopped.

273. Under the Bombay-Baroda Boundary Convention, the joint survey work was continued throughout the field season without any hitch. The work in connection with British Panch Mahal district was completed and a major portion of the work connected with the Ahmedabad Collectorate was also finished. Disputes which were pending were also amicably settled with one exception of Gutal (Waghodia) v/s Vithoj (Halol). It was referred to higher authorities. The Survey and Settlement Commissioner of the Bombay Presidency and the Sar Suba have approved of the view taken by the Baroda delegate. This case will serve as test case for establishing a well-known maxim in boundary cases that " Once a settlement is always a settlement ". In this case the land in dispute is in possession of Vithoj (Halol) against the Boundary Commissioner's Settlement of 1867.

Work done under Bombay-Baroda Boundary Convention.

274. The draft of the instructions to the local officers for dealing with boundary disputes and other minor amendments in the convention proposed by both the delegates was approved by the Bombay-Baroda Governments and effect will be given to it in due course.

Principles regarding boundary dispute after the joint settlement.

275. The work of the joint verification of Jamnagar land frontier running with Okhamandal was finished this year without any dispute or difference of opinion. The work with Barwala, Thana Devli and other petty States of Kathiawar did not make much progress. Except about ten boundaries in Rewakantha, the whole frontier has been rectified.

Work in Kathiawar and Rewakantha.

276. The Mahikantha Agency cases numbering about twelve and involving large stakes still remain undisposed of. As the Agency Officers find little time to attend to this work, a solution has been proposed to entrust the work to the British delegate who will be working in proximity of the disputed areas next fair season.

Work done in Mahikantha.

E. Railway Demarcation.

277. The Railway Demarcation work continued to be in charge of Mr. G. V. Gokhale, L.Ag., during the year who did this work in addition to his duties of the Boundary Branch.

Officer in charge of the work.

278. The last sanction granted for this work expired on 7-6-1925 and a fresh sanction has been obtained for a further period of one year more. The sanctioned amount is Rs. 2,930.

Sanctioned period and amount.

279. The demarcation survey work of Pattan-Kakoshi line was left incomplete through some misunderstanding of the Executive Engineer, Abu Division, which being removed, the field-work was finished. The work of preparing plans is on hand in the office of the Executive Engineer, Abu Division.

Demarcation of Pattan-Kakoshi line.

280. Also the demarcation survey work of Petlad-Bhadran and Petlad-Vaso lines of 32 miles was completed during the year, and correspondence is going on with the Executive Engineer, G. B. S. Railways, to prepare the plans as per recent demarcation to relinquish the land from the station yards as per demarcation survey work, and to fix up boundary posts accordingly.

Demarcation survey of Petlad-Bhadran and Petlad-Vaso lines.

281. The field-work for amalgamating the land, relinquished from Mehsana-Kheralu Section, Bajwa Station Yard, Deusana Station Yard and Miyagam-Sinore line in the adjoining survey numbers was completed last year and the necessary corrections in the survey papers have been made except in the Karjan Taluka in Miyagam-Sinor line. The Survey department was requested to send the supplementary " Faisal Patraks " to the Talukas concerned.

Corrections to be made in survey papers.

282. The field-work for incorporating the relinquished land in the adjoining survey numbers of the Dabhoi-Timba line was taken up and continued up to Gothda village, mile 36. The remaining work will be completed next year.

The field-work for amalgamating relinquished land.

283. This year's work brought to light about 368 Bighas of the land in excess of the requirements of the Railway. Upto this time about 2,099 Bighas of land have been actually restored to our respective villages from the commencement of the demarcation work.

This year's work brought to light about 368 Bighas.

284. Kathiawar railways remain untouched upto this time and correspondence has been started to secure the co-operation of the authorities concerned through the usual course After the calculations are made, it will be possible to have an idea of the excess land that is likely to be claimed for restoration.

Kathiawar Railways remain untouched.

285. Steps are being taken to keep the final demarcation plans that have been received upto this time upto date and to secure an addition of a permanent surveyor to the Political Branch for doing this work.

Necessity of keeping the demarcation plans up-to-date.

F. Excise.

286. The Department of Customs, Salt, Opium and Excise continued to be under the control of the Sar Suba, Mr. A. N. Datar, B.A., LL.B., A.M. (Columbia), in the capacity of Excise Commissioner till the 14th February 1925 when Mr. R. H. Desai, B.A., LL.B , assumed charge of this department.

Personnel. :

287. The Excise revenue was derived from the manufacture and sale of country and foreign liquors and from the licenses for the sale of toddy and intoxicating and poisonous drugs.

Sources of Revenue.

288. The system in force for manufacture and supply of country liquor was the same as last year, viz. 'Contract Distilling and Separate Shop System', except in the Amreli district, (including Okhamandal) where the 'District Monopoly System' still prevails.

System of Farming.

289. The contract of manufacture and supply of liquors for the Baroda and Kadi districts was with the Alembic Chemical Works Co., Ltd., and that for the Navsari district was with Messrs. Gyara & Co. Both the contracts were renewed to the respective companies for a further period of three years commencing from 1st April 1925. In the new contracts entered into witn these companies, supply rates have been lowered by annas two per gallon of 60° U. P. and consequent reduction of rates in other strengths. The farm for the manufacture and sale of country liquor in the Amreli district including Okhamandal remained with Dorabji Navaroji and Sorabshaw Adarjee of Kodinar.

Distilling contracts.

290. As shown in the report of last year, the retail shops of country liquor were given to old shopkeepers on fixed average license fee system for two years commencing from 1–4–24 and so most of the old shopkeepers remained in the enjoyment of their respective shops. But a few shops in the Kadi district which could not be thus disposed of were auctioned off and given to the highest bidders.

Farms of Liquor Shops.

The Baroda City and the Naosari–Gandevi Taluka Blocks of liquor shops remained with Mr. Fanibanda upto March 1925. From 1st April 1925, shops of the Naosari–Gandevi Taluka Blocks were auctioned out separately and the Baroda City Block was allowed to remain with Mr. Fanibanda for

one year more with a minimum guarantee of 25,000 gallons of 25° U. P. and license fee of Rs. 2,50,000 with the proviso that at the end of the period Mr. Fanibanda should not claim ownership of liquor remaining in balance over the amount of 15 days' consumption.

Increase in duty rates.

291. The Bombay Government asked the Baroda Government to increase duty rates on British border, so as to assimilate the issue rates on both sides from 1-4-25. As the retail vend contracts had already been given for two years ending 31–3–26, wholesale increase in duty rates could not be made. The conditions of the Baroda and Kadi districts did not warrant the increase in duty rates owing to high incidence of license fee per gallon, while in the Navsari district, though the circumstances were more favourable, increase all round was not possible. To meet the proposal of the Bombay Government, some increase in duty rates on the border shops was sanctioned by Government to take effect from 1–4–25.

Arrangement with Bombay Government.

292. The Bombay Government proposed to the Baroda Government to fix the following principles in giving retail vends of liquor viz:–

(1) The existing number of shops within three miles of any border on either side should not be increased without mutual agreement.

(2) In all shops the liquor is to be supplied to the licensees at the same rate on both borders.

(3) Such shops are preferably to be auctioned.

The Baroda Government have agreed in principle to the modifications proposed by the Bombay Government in the existing excise arrangements relating to border shops except the abolition of minimum selling prices. As regards the equalization of rates at which liquor should be supplied to licensees on the border, nothing could be done owing to difference in the cost price of liquor in the British and Baroda territories, and the difference in duty rates. As the shops have been leased out for a period of two years which would expire on 31st March 1926, the system of giving out the border shops by auction could not be introduced.

293. The following statement will show the figures of the Excise revenue for the year as compared with those of the year preceding:—

Details of Excise revenue.

Serial No.	Item.	1923-24.	1924-25.
		Rs.	Rs.
1	Manufacture and sale of country liquor...	25,82,286	29,28,973
2	Duty and license fee for the sale of foreign liquor including rectified and denatured spirits.	28,345	35,018
3	Sale of Toddy	3,29,133	4,23,933
4	Sale of intoxicating & poisonous drugs.	69,310	98,687
5	Miscellaneous	11,873	49,348
	Total...	30,20,947	35,35,959*

* These figures include collections of past arrears which amount to Rs. 1,10,653 as per details shown in the margin.† Leaving aside this amount, there is an increase of Rs. 4,04,359 in revenue

†Baroda,	31,821
Kadi,	20,228
Naosari,	55,445
	1,07,494
Amreli,	2,128
Okhamandal,	1,031
	1,10,653

The increase under the first item is owing to increase in duty rates in some parts of the Navsari district, and more liquor being demanded by the shopkeepers in the second half of the year. It is also due to increase in license fee. The assessment of heavy license fee according to the present system was in force for the last four months of the preceding year, while it was in force during the whole of the year under report.

Item No. 2 is chiefly made up of duty and license fee on foreign liquor. The increase under this head is mainly due to the doubling of license fee from 1st April 1925.

Under the head of toddy there is an appreciable increase, and it is due to higher bids realized in auction and to tapping of more trees for drawing toddy.

The increase under item No. 4 is due to large amount of refund received from the British Government out of the duty on Hemp–drugs.

The miscellaneous head shows a sudden rise in income. The increase is attributed to the difference in the cost price of liquor, received from the shop-keepers and paid to the distilling contractors, being credited to Government.

Collection & arrears.

294. The following statement gives the demand, collection and arrears of the Excise revenue for the year under report :—

District.	Demand.	Surplus.	Total Collections.	Arrears.
Baroda	10,92,469	73,524	11,31,586	34,407
Kadi	3,20,998	5,182	2,92,297	33,883
Navsari... ...	19,79,426	68	19,72,093	7,401
Amreli	29,518	...	27,534	1,984
Okhamandal ...	2,606	...	1,797	809
Total...	34,25,017	78,774	34,25,307	78,484

Out of the amount shown as arrears above, sums to be recovered from shopkeepers are as under :—

Baroda	...	895
Kadi	...	20,572
Navsari	...	1,797
Total...		23,264

The remaining sum of Rs. 55,220 represents the amount of refund duty to be received in the ensuing year from the British Government on Bhang and Ganja.

Number of shops.

295. The following comparative statement gives the number of shops by districts;—

District.	Country liquor shops.		Toddy shops.		Foreign liquor shops.		Total.		Remarks.
	1923-1924.	1924-1925.	1923-1924.	1924-1925.	1923-1924.	1924-1925.	1923-1924.	1924-1925.	
Baroda ...	188	187	27	29	9	9	224	225	There were besides 204 tree foot-booths against 174 in the preceding year. The increase of 28 toddy shops in the Navsari district represents merely the reopening of same shops that were temporarily closed. There is no increase in the sanctioned number.
Kadi ...	186	186	...	...	3	3	189	189	
Navsari ...	289	287	258	286	8	8	555	581	
Amreli ...	23	23	...	...	...	1	23	24	
Okhamandal	2	2	...	...	...	...	2	2	
Total ...	688	685	285	315	20	21	993	1,021	

296. The following statement gives the number of offences detected against the Abkari Act and the number of convictions and acquittals thereof :—

Offences.

District.	Last year's pending offences.	This year's offences.	Total.	Convictions.	Acquittals.	Pending.
Baroda ...	6	75	81	68	10	3
Kadi ...	22	311	333	274	29	30
Navsari ...	2	192	194	187	7	...
Amreli ...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Okhamandal.	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	30	578	608	529	46	33

This year the number of offences detected was 578 against 385 of the last year,—an appreciable increase—which shows greater zeal on the part of the inspectorial staff, especially of the Kadi district.

G. Opium.

297. The sources of opium revenue are :—

Sources of Opium revenue.

(a) Profit on opium issued to licensed vendors for local consumption ;

(b) Fees for licenses for retail sale ;

(c) Miscellaneous receipts.

Manufacture of opium.

298. The manufacture of opium is a State Monopoly on "Bengal System". The issue rate of opium from the Depots continued to be Rs. 37-8-0 per seer of 40 tolas.

Lease of opium shops.

299. The retail vend licenses continued with the old licensees on the terms mentioned in the last year's report.

Poppy cultivation.

300. Poppy was cultivated only in the Sidhpur, Kheralu, Mehsana and Visnagar Talukas of the Kadi district. Applications for permission to cultivate poppy were received from 42 villages and permits to cultivate poppy in 941½ Bighas were given. The juice tendered by the cultivators was 176 mds. 26 srs. 10 tolas against 307 mds. 22 srs. 15 tolas of the preceding year. The cultivators are bound to sell the whole produce of opium juice to Government, at the fixed rate, and the rate fixed for the year was Rs. 5 per seer, i.e. Re. 1 less than the preceding year.

Opium sent to the Depots and consumption.

301. The following figures show the quantity of opium sent to the depots from the Opium Factory at Sidhpur :—

Year.	Lbs.
1923-24	26,650
1924-25	15,330

The actual consumption of opium in the year was lbs. 14,509 against lbs. 13,844 of the previous year showing an increase of lbs. 665.

Opium Revenue.

302. The financial results of the sale of opium in the State are as follows :—

Year.	Cost of production. Rs.	Amount realized from licensed vendors. Rs.	Profit to the State. Rs.
1923-24	74,143	6,17,844	5,33,101
1924-25	83,920	6,47,052	5,63,136

The increase of Rs. 30,031 in the net profit is due to increase in consumption and miscellaneous realization in the Sidhpur Opium Factory.

H. Customs and Port Dues.

Revenue from Customs and Port dues.

303. The following figures show the revenue obtained from (1) Customs duties at Chandod and the Excise duty on Cotton goods produced in the Mills, (2) the Sea Customs and Port dues and (3) the Wharfage dues and Armar cess in the Navsari district:—

District.	1923-24.	1924-25.
Baroda.	1,90,421	1,74,503
Kadi.	51,258	72,568
Navsari.	17,540	25,264
Amreli.	7,850	9,957
Okhamandal.	52,161	50,528
Total ...	3,19,230	3,32,820

It will be seen from the above figures that there is an increase of Rs. 13,590 in the Customs revenue for this year. The decrease of Rs. 15,918 in the Baroda district is due to the general trade slump specially in Cotton goods market. The increase in the Kadi district is due to the recovery of past arrears from the Mill-owners and to the recovery of fine imposed on importation of matches in Harij from Cutch. The increase in the Navsari district of Rs. 7,724 is due partly to more realizations from Excise duty and partly to Measurement fees on vessels at the Billimora and Navsari Ports. The identity and measurement certificates for the vessels of the Baroda State were heretofore issued by the British Customs authorities. This practice was stopped from August 1924 and the certificates are now issued by our Port Officers.

The increase of Rs. 2,107 in the Amreli district is attributed to the larger imports of dutiable articles and to the larger production of cloth in the factory at Damnagar. The decrease in revenue of Rs. 1,633 in Okhamandal is reported to be due to slackness of trade owing to famine conditions and to stopping of cement factory at Dwarka.

I. Salt.

Salt arrangements.

304. The salt arrangements for the Baroda, Kadi and Navsari districts remained unchanged.

Kodinar Salt Beds and revenue.

305. Out of the five salt beds of the Kodinar Taluka, three were given for collecting, manufacturing and selling salt during the year, while two beds did not attract bidders for want of formation of salt. The monopoly fetched Rs. 35-5-0. Last year no bidders came forward and consequently there was no revenue from this head. Four hundred maunds of salt was manufactured.

Salt arrangement of Okhamandal.

306. The salt pans of Okhamandal Taluka were handed over to Sheth Ratilal Jethalal of Damnagar, but as the contractor did not fulfil the terms of the contract, the monopoly to collect salt and start alkali and kindred chemical works

was cancelled, and the right to collect salt from salt beds was auctioned off for the period from 21-5-1925 to 31-7-26 for the sum of Rs. 531. The amount of the first instalment, viz. Rs. 135 has been collected in the year. The following statement will show the transactions in salt:—

	Maunds.
The balance of salt in the beginning of the year.	1,15,700
The collection of salt by the present Izardar.	200
Total ...	1,15,900
Salt sent out of India	16,800
Salt sold locally	1,050
Salt remaining at the end of the year...	98,050

J. Cotton Transport.

Arrangements made under the Cotton Transport Act.

307. By passing the Cotton Transport Act the Baroda Government in co-operation with the Bombay Government have formed three zones of the cotton producing areas in the Navsari district, similar to those made by the Bombay Government, and entry from a lower into the higher zone is prohibited. The Bombay Government adopted the policy of allowing the transport of cotton from the villages situated on the north of the Tapti river to the ginning factories situated on the south of that river by issuing certificates, and established for this purpose eleven check Nakas on the southern bank of the Tapti river. Similar arrangement for fifteen villages of the Kamrej Taluka situated on the north of the Tapti river was made by the Baroda Government and four check stations for this purpose were established in the Kamrej Taluka. 32,267 maunds of cotton from these villages was allowed to pass to the ginning factories situated on the south of the river. Similarly four Nakas were established on the eastern border of the Songad Taluka preventing the entry of Navapura cotton into Songad, and certificates were granted for importing 832 maunds of cotton by rail.

308. The expenses for maintaining these eight Nakas for five months came to Rs. 1,192-4-8.

Expenses.

K. Stamps.

309. The Accountant General was in charge of the supply and sale of stamps; while supervision over the general working of the Stamp Act rested with the Sar Suba.

Constitution.

310. The revenue derived from the sale of stamps during the last two years is shown in the following table:—

Revenue.

Sources of revenue.	1923-24.	1924-25.
	Rs	Rs.
Sale of Court Fee Stamps	5,13,908	5,23,518
Sale of Documentary Stamps	6,65,943	6,64,986
Special Levies	12,607	13,372
Miscellaneous receipts	4,894	9,062
Total Rs. ...	11,97,352	12,10,938

It will thus be seen that there was a small increase of Rs. 13,586 in the total receipts, the sale of Court Fee stamps being largely responsible for it. The ordinary and small cause suits in the year had a greater file and this fact accounts for the rise in the sale of Court Fee Stamps.

311. The following statement shows the expenditure incurred under the Head of "Stamps":—

Expenditure.

Year.	Rs.
1923-24	79,560
1924-25	84,971

The variation in the shape of increase in expenditure is small and is mostly due to the printing of stamp papers.

Inspection.

312. The Personal Assistant to the Head of the Registration department inspected 16 Depots, 23 Stamp-vendors' Daftars and 24 public offices in order to see that stamps of requisite value were available to the public without any difficulty and also that the revenue was being properly safeguarded.

Cases referred to the Varishta court.

313. During the year, the department referred 90 cases to the Varishta Court for decision, of which 28 were due to the Personal Assistant's inspection. There were, besides, 23 old cases of the previous year. Out of these 113 cases, 73 were decided, the court agreeing with the department in 58 and differing in 15. The number of cases pending decision at the close of the year was 40.

L. Barkhali.

Personnel.

314. During the year, Mr. A. N. Datar, B.A.,LL.B., was in charge of this branch as Sar Suba upto 13-2-25, and since then Mr. Ramlal H. Desai, B.A.,LL.B., was in charge of this branch as Survey and Settlement Commissioner. Mr. K. V. Uplap, B.A.,LL.B., continued to hold the post of the Barkhali Assistant in addition to the work of Giras Assistant. He also continued to do the work of Survey and Settlement Superintendent. Mr. Ambaidas K. Patel, B.A.,LL.B., was appointed Special Barkhali and Giras Assistant for one year under H. O. No. 82/20, dated 29-7-24. From 20th April 1925 he was transferred as Petlad Vibhag Naib Suba. As Special Barkhali Assistant he was given work regarding Barkhali Land Mobadlas and some Cash Allowance work.

Village cases.

315. During the year, orders were passed regarding the following villages :—

Serial No.	Villages.	Assessment on the resumed villages or part of the village.	Assessment charged on villages continued.	Vadharo charged on villages continued.	Cash Allowance granted in lieu of villages.	Institutional charges levied.	Service levied on villages continued.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Kanesara under Sidhpur	...	...	1,015	...	...	298–13	
2	Monpur peta Ratanpur	...	...	...	...	...	...	
3	Gangpur under Vyara	201–5–0	...	...	...	...	...	Manibhai Gopalji's two annas share of the village purchased by paying Rs. 1,806.
4 5 6 7 8	Avakhal... ... Tersa ... ... Diver ... ... Mangrol... ... Mindhol... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	These villages are made Khalsa owing to the demise of Maharaj Kumar Jaysingrao.
	Total...	201–5–0	...	1,015	...	...	298–13	

Out of these, 6 orders were passed by the Huzur, one by the Council and one was passed by the department under powers granted by the Huzur.

Cash allowances.

316. During the year, 38 claims were preferred for cash amounting to Rs. 9,605–13–0. Of this Rs. 4,058–2–6 were continued and claims of Rs. 5,547-10-6 were disallowed. 37 claims for Rs. 9,543-1-0 were preferred during the previous year, out of which Rs. 2,411–10–0 were continued and Rs. 7,131–7–0 were disallowed. In 7 cases cash Haks amounting to Rs. 274-5-0 were purchased by paying Rs. 3,069–12–0 as lump sum according to rules.

Vatan werk.

317. In the Vatan Branch 5 claims were disposed of during the year. The amount claimed was Rs. 11,986–8–5, out of which Rs. 11,914–8–5 were continued and Rs. 72 were disallowed.

Arrears refunded.

318. During the year, Rs. 48–3–4 were refunded.

Settlement of Barkhali land.

319. 272 claims about Barkhali land came for disposal during the year. In 62 cases land measuring 266–8 Bighas assessed at Rs. 679–3–0 was resumed, and in seven cases land measuring 94-14 Bighas assessed at Rs. 293–14–0 was continued. This year's figures as compared with those of the last year stand as under:—

Item.	Last year.	This year.
1. Original Settlement	...	...
2. Review claims about Barkhali lands ...	39	63

During the year, a Kothali Santh of Rs. 7–6–0 was continued for life time for Barkhali land, Bighas 1–6 assessed at Rs. 7–11–0.

320. During the year, 127 land succession cases came up for disposal as against 106 in the last year. Rs. 796-13-0 were levied as fine for laches against Rs. 660-11-0 in the last year, and Rs. 387 were levied as Nazrana against Rs. 382-15-7 last year. The total amount of fines and Nazranas comes to Rs. 1,183-13-0. Lands measuring Bighas 525 assessed at Rs. 5,058, were purchased by paying a lump sum of Rs. 7,077.

Barkhali land succession and purchase.

321. The amount of Rs. 30,000 was advanced as loan to the persons noted below :—

Loans.

Serial No.	Name of Loanee.	Amount, Rs.
1	2	3
1	Appajirao Jyotyajirao Fakde	5,000
2	Shrimant Hanmantrao Sadashivrao Gaekwad.	3,000
3	Girashia Bhojrjaji Govindji of Poshitra ...	3,000
4	Shrimant Govindrao Ganpatrao Gaekwad ...	10,000
5	Krishnarao Sadashivrao Kale (minor) ...	4,000
6	Shri. Shivrao Krishnarao Powar	5,000
	Total...	30,000

The balance, as it stood on the names of 43 persons, of government dues at the end of July 1925 amounted to Rs. 6,29,517-6-1 and recovery during the year was Rs. 1,81,391-14-9. The balance of the outstanding loans at the end of July 1924 was Rs. 7,30,693-0-2; and the recovery was Rs. 1,33,993-3-0.

The following statement will give a clear idea of the condition in which the loans advanced uptill the end of July 1925 stand :—

Outstanding balance of loans at the end of the previous year.	Loans advanced during the year.	Interest due in the year.
1	2	3
7,30,693-0-2	30,000	43,967-1-8

Amount advanced out of the amount realised during the year.	Total of Col. 1 to 4.	Amount recovered during the year.	Outstanding balance of loans at the end of July 1925.
4	5	6	7
6,249-3-0	8,10,909-4-10	1,81,391-14-9	6,29,517-6-1

322. During the year, 56 appeals were preferred against the decisions of the department, and the balance of 35 appeals pending at the end of the previous year brought up the total to 91. Out of these, 71 appeals have been disposed of 47 were disallowed, 12 allowed, 11 were remanded, and in 1 the order was modified leaving a balance of 20 at the close of the year.

Appeals to the Huzur.

323. 960 petitions were received during the year as against 850 for the previous year, and the balance of 7 at the end of the previous year made the total of 967, of which 954 were disposed of, leaving a balance of 13.

Petitions.

324. The department submitted 85 Tippans as against 86 of the previous year, which with the arrears of the previous year, viz. 12, makes up the total 97. Out of these orders have been received in 79 cases, and 18 remain undisposed of. The number of independent orders received during the year was 12.

Tippans.

325. The Barkhali land record for the year 1924 has been arranged and filed according to the record rules.

Record work.

326. Orders were passed in 5 Farta Ankda Matadari villages as the period fixed had expired. The increase was Rs. 2,244. Mutation of names in 3 Farta Ankda Matadari villages and one Ek-Ankdi village was made. No enhancement was made in these cases as the period fixed had not elapsed.

Work of Ankadia Branch.

327. As shown in the report of the previous year, only mutation work of the Shiledari Branch remained with the department. During the year, 5 mutation cases, 2 for maintenance, and 3 miscellaneous cases were disposed of. 4 mutation cases were disposed of by the department, and 1 by the Council. Maintenance orders were passed by the department. In miscellaneous cases one was disposed of by the Huzur, and 3 by the department. The operation of the Mobadla Rules and the election of the Shiledars to have pension in lieu of their Nemnook resulted in a clear gain of Rs. 356 per mensem.

Work of Shiledari Branch.

Temporary establishment and its work.

328. Revision Patraks of 47 villages were prepared during the year as against 40 of the previous year.

Work of the Revision Patrak.

Division.	Taluka.	No. of villages.	No. of Survey Numbers.
1	2	3	4
Baroda	Petlad	47	28,555

329. Special duty Kamdar, Mr. Limaye, has finished the inquiry work of ten villages of the Sidhpur Taluka that was in arrears at the close of the last year. The work of passing Tharavs of all the villages of the Dehgam Taluka was finished. He has also taken up the work of inquiry of the Karjan Taluka from 30th May 1925 and has completed the inquiry of 42 villages. The total expenses of the Party were Rs. 2,575-6-6.

Special Mobadla Party.

Expenditure.

330. The following statement will show the expenditure
the year :—

Serial No.	Item.	Pay.	Bhattas.	Contingent.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	Permanent.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
1	Special Assistant and Establishment.	7,856-12-0	50-10-11	1,428-8-7	9,735-15-6
2	Damajirao Gaekwad.	400- 0-0	...	...	...
3	Shiledari.	600- 0-0	...	...	600- 0-0
	Temporary.				
4	Special Mobadla Party.	2,036-14-6	398- 8- 0	140-0-0	2,575- 6-6
5	Revision Barkhali Patraks.	289-12-0	170- 0- 0	...	459-12-0
6	Temporary Establishment for past Record.	89- 5-4	...	...	89- 5-4
	Total.	11,272-11-10	619- 2-11	1,568-8-7	13,460-7-4

Work of the Subordinate Offices.

331. The work done by the Subas, Naib Subas, Vahiwatdars and Mahalkaris is as shown in the following two statements :—

STATEMENT I.

Serial No.	Division.	Cash.			Vatan.			Non-guaranteed Cash Giras.			Number of mutation cases.	Barkhali land.			
													Land purchased.		
		Claims	Amount claimed.	Amount continued	Claims.	Amount claimed.	Amount continued	Claims	Amount claimed.	Amount continued		Claims	Bighas.	Assess-ment.	Lump sum given.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
1	Baroda.	3	123-15-0	121-15-0	...	...	...	3	112-15-0	108-14-0	2,312	3	24–10	62-9-0	829-6-2
2	Kadi.	*10	388- 1-0	287-15-0	...	...	...	1	49-0-0	49- 0-0	833	4	64– 1	184-9-0	1,943-4-0
3	Navsari	†6	...	...	32	4893-14-1	4893-14-1	6	2,516-2-10	2513-11-0	462	...	...	...	...
4	Amreli.	5	602-14-0	267- 3-0	2	2692-12-0	2,541- 0-0	1	1/10th part of 40 Taka Hak of Sakhapur village in Dhari.	as Col. 10	37	1	29–12	58-4-0	533-3-3
5	Okha-mandal.	1	5- 0-0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...
	Total	19	1120-14-0	677- 1-0	34	7586-10-1	7434-14-1	11	2,678-1-10	2,671 -9-0	3,646	8	118– 3	305-6-0	3305-13-5

* 1 claim of Rs. 45 was purchased for Rs. 427–8–0.
† 1 claim of Rs. 471–8–0 was purchased for Rs. 471–8–0.

STATEMENT II.

Barkhali Land.

Serial No.	Division.	Total number of claims.			Accepted.			Rejected.			Resumed.		
		Claims.	Bighas.	Assessment.	Claims.	Bighas.	Assess-ment.	Claims	Bighas	Assess-ment.	Claims	Bighas.	Assessment.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1	Baroda.	251	979-8	3,506-15-9	5	29-10	118-11-0	18	170-8	652-15-0	228	779-10	2,735- 5-9
2	Kadi.	64	714-2	1,281-10-0	...	...	...	...	...	...	64	714- 2	1,281-10-0
3	Naosari.	16	68-16	241-13-0	...	...	...	9	44-0	139-11-0	7	24-16	102- 2-0
4	Amreli.	16	1,128-18	1,902- 9-0	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	1,128-18	1,902- 9-0
5	Okhamandal.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0	...	...
	Total	347	2,891-4	6,932-15-9	5	29-10	118-11-0	27	214-8	792-10-0	315	2,647- 6	6,021-10-9

Mul-Giras.

332. The working of the Rules for the purchasing of the Barkhali lands of Mul-Girasias of Amreli with a view to clear off their debts is noted below.

Result of working.

During the year, 5 Mul-Girasias applied for the purchase of their lands. At the end of the last year 4 cases were pending, thus the total number of claims came to 9. Out of these, 7 have been disposed of by the Suba and 2 cases remain to be disposed of. Out of these 7 cases, 3 have been withdrawn by the Girasias and decisions were passed in the remaining 4 cases. In all, 374-2 Bighas of land assessed at Rs. 763-15-0 were purchased for Rs. 15,278-12-0. The claims of forty Savkars amounting to Rs. 25,993-13-1 were compounded for Rs. 13,637-2-6 and excess of Rs. 1,841-9-6 was handed over to the Girasias. The Savkars were paid about ½ of their demand. The measure has this year resulted in giving a clear gain of Rs. 10,715-1-1 to the Girasias.

Appeals.

333. No appeal has been preferred against the decisions of the Suba passed during the year. Two cases of Samvat 1978 were remanded to the Suba. Out of these, one has been disposed of and one is on the file. In one appeal of Samvat 1979 the appellate court has orderd more amount to be paid. Second appeal is preferred to the Varishta Court by the Girasia, and it is not yet decided. One appeal preferred against the decision of Samvat 1980 is decided. The decision of the Suba is confirmed.

M. Survey and Settlement.

Personnel.

334. The department was being treated as a branch of the Sar Suba Office and was looked after by Mr. K. V. Uplap, B.A.,LL.B , as Survey and Settlement Superintendent in addition to his duties as Barkhali and Giras Assistant. The post of the Survey and Settlement Commissioner was revived and the Survey, Barkhali and Giras branches were transferred to him from 14-2-25 when Mr. Ramlal Hiralal Desai, B.A.,LL.B., took charge of the post. Mr. K. V. Uplap continued to work as Survey and Settlement Superintendent throughout the year.

335. Ever since the time the Revision Settlement operations were commenced in the year 1902, the staff employed was treated as temporary. But the time having arrived to determine the strength of the establishments to be permanently maintained as adjuncts to the Revenue department, the Council by their order No. 34–11 of 22-7-1924 sanctioned the organisation of the Survey Record Office at a maximum cost of Rs. 28,752 pay and Rs. 1,350 contingencies per year. Similarly a separate Maintenance Party was created from 1st August 1924 to maintain the City Survey Records. It was sanctioned in principle, as early as 1921, the maximum cost being Rs. 36,060 pay and Rs. 4,000 contingencies. This establishment includes the hands that are meant to be availed of whenever occasion for taking up the revision work arises.

Organization of the permanent establishments.

The Superintendent's office is continued just as it was.

The old Jamabandi Office, the Survey Record Office, the F Classing Party, the City Survey Party and Inquiry Party No. I have all ceased to exist from 1st August 1924.

These changes have effected a reduction in expenditure to the extent of Rs. 20,190 per year.

336. As no further Kasbas are to be brought under City Survey operations, only two parties were maintained to finish the work on hand in the Kalol and Saoli Kasbas. The Tharav work of Saolibeing finished, the post of the Kamdar and the clerical staff have been reduced from 1-6-25, maintaining only a sufficient number of technical hands to clear off the closing work before 31-10-25 when its sanction expires. The party working in the Kalol Kasba was due for partial disbandment by the end of October 1925 and wholly from 1-8-1926. Then all the parties temporarily maintained hitherto would disappear.

City Survey Enquiry Parties.

337. As the terms of the present Settlements in the Vaghodia Taluka of Baroda and Kodinar Taluka of Amreli expire by the end of the Samvat year 1983, both of them were taken up for

Field work.

treatment. As no measurement work was to be done, classification only was examined and statements of wells prepared. This work is still to be tested and final orders passed, determining whether any change in classification or subsoil water advantage charge is called for. The Shikar Boundary at Dabka was demarcated and a map is under preparation. The Vanta land in Kalol Kasba and the Giras land in the village of Nanavada of the Amreli Prant were measured field by field.

Jamabandi work.

338. Jamabandi papers of the 32 villages of the Petlad Taluka pending at the close of the last year, were sanctioned, as also those of the 5 villages noted in the margin where settlement was introduced for the first time. Settlement rates were declared in two villages of Kothav under Karjan and Chitrodipura under Mehsana.

1. Haldaru, Taluka Kamrej.
2. Parab " "
3. Valan " "
4. Anjesar " Saoli.
5. Kherva " Mehsana.

Settlement of marginally mentioned 9 villages was pending at the end of the previous year. Three more villages, viz. Gerita Vanto of Vijapur, Chitrodipura of Mehsana and Kanesara of Sidhpur were added this year. Thus in all 12 villages had to be handled. Out of these, the work of the five villages noted above has been completed. Rates have been declared in Sarsavni, Kothav and Chitrodipura and their Jamabandi papers are under preparation. The rest are pending.

1. Sarsavni, Taluka Padra.
2. Kherva " Mehsana.
3. Valan " Kamrej.
4. Parab " "
5. Haldaru " "
6. Anjesar " Saoli.
7. Kothav " Karjan.
8 Haripura " Palsana.
9. Gunja Vanto, " Visnagar.

Enquiry into the Petlad Settlement.

339. In consequence of the dissatisfaction that was being expressed with regard to the revised rates in the Petlad Taluka, the Sar Suba, A. N. Datar, Esq, B A., LL.B., was asked to enquire into the matter and ascertain what truth there was in the complaints made. He submitted his report which was fully considered by the Council, who changed the

year of the introduction of revised rates from 1979 to 1980 and sanctioned certain remissions in subsoil water assessment of all the villages of Petlad and Bhadran and in the land assessment of 8 villages that were hit hard. These orders have been confirmed by the Huzur.

Durasti and other miscellaneous work done in the Record office.

340. The opening balance of Tumars on hand was 1,047. Fresh 3,381 were received during the year. Out of these, 2,651 were disposed of, leaving a balance of 1,777. Durasti was effected in the case of 5,025 Survey numbers, and copies of field books in respect of 1,556 survey numbers were supplied.

793 map sheets for 483 villages were supplied corrected upto date. Two Taluka maps and three Prant maps were also supplied for cost which brought in an income of Rs. 70-6-0. 4 copies of the Atlas were sold for Rs. 28. Under the Record Rules 132 Daftars for the Samvat years 1970 and 1977 were destroyed and 14 handed over to the Fadnis office.

City Survey Inquiry Work.

341. Two City Survey Inquiry parties worked during the year. Party No. 2 at Kalol and Party No. 4 at Saoli.

The party at Kalol passed 2,602 decisions during the year which with those for the previous year, viz. 467, made up the total of 3,069, leaving a balance of 581 on hand. Claims over 89,579·2 sq. ft. of land assessed at Rs. 85,212-12-0 were rejected. 326·5 sq. ft. of land were sold for Rs. 324-12-0.

The Party at Saoli passed 2,284 decisions which with 1 decision to its credit in the previous year, saw the end of the Tharav work. Claims over 3,28,991·2 sq. ft. of land assessed at Rs. 2,86,344-12-0 were rejected, and 2,383·11 sq. ft. of land were sold for Rs. 2,306-14-6. Thus the revenue from land sold in both the Kasbas came to Rs. 2,631-10-6. In all 1,140 Sanads were issued during the year by both the parties as detailed below :—

Kalol	...	588
Saoli	...	458
Vaso	...	37
Sojitra	...	57
Total...		1,140

The amount of Survey fees assessed and the amount recovered and amount of arrears upto the end of the year are as follows:—

Kasba.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Sojitra	31,729	29,933	1,795
Kalol	28,245	3,651	24,594
Vaso	18,852	15,854	2,998
Saoli	14,970	7,856	7,114
Total ...	93,796	57,294	36,502

342. The Maintenance party did general inspection work—Nazar Tapasni in the two Kasbas of Padra and Naosari. The total Survey Numbers, examined were 9,308. It discovered encroachments in 1,828 cases :—908 in Padra and 920 in Naosari. In 252 cases of Padra and 12 of Naosari, corrections were made in the papers, as the same were not reported in due course.

Maintenance work.

The total number of properties held on Kiraya tenure was ascertained to be as follows :—

Dabhoi 295, Padra 1,986, Naosari 225.

Out of 2,506 Dakhalas to be given to these property holders, 82 Dakhalas have been given during the year assessing the Survey fee at Rs. 166.

In all, 596 decisions were passed during the year, 142 were regular ones after due inquiry in respect of lands situated in the Jetalpur Gamthan included in Baroda Kasba, 160 were of miscellaneous nature consequent on the splitting up of the old Survey Nos. and 294 were in respect of

Revenue Survey Nos. included in the Municipal limits of Baroda and Dabhoi. Out of a total number of 1,796 requisitions for corrections, as many as 1,597 were disposed of, leaving a balance of 197.

369 sheets of maps of Sidhpur, Vadnagar, Visnagar and Pattan Kasbas being ready, have been sent to the Poona Photo Zinco Press for copies being taken out.

Tracings from out-line survey maps of the Unza and Manud Kasbas were supplied on demand and Rs. 94-14-6 recovered.

The amount of Survey fees to be recovered by the various Mahal authorities where the work has been entrusted to them was Rs. 7,943 at the commencement of the year. Rs. 67 were added during the year. In all, Rs. 1,992 have been recovered, leaving a balance of Rs. 6,018.

Appeal Work.

343. The number of appeals pending at the close of the previous year was 3. 272 more were admitted during the year, as against 196 in the last year. Thus in all 275 appeals were on register. Out of these, 261 were disposed of, leaving a balance of 14. All of these were received during the last week of July.

Civil Suits.

344. The balance of suits pending in civil courts at the close of the previous year was 25. During the current year 40 more were filed. Thus in all there were 65 suits. Out of these, 38 have been decided during the year, leaving a balance of 27.

No. of suits in which the decrees are for government.	No. of suits in which the decrees are partly in favour of government.	No. of suits in which the decrees are against government.	Cost to be borne by government.	Cost awarded to be paid to party.	Cost awarded to government.
1	2	3	4	5	6
17	2	19	162-7-6	413-12-6	158-3-0

Expenditure.

345. The total expenditure is Rs. 1,03,691-6-4 as against Rs. 1,11,677-8-3 for the previous year, showing a decrease of Rs. 7,986-1-11.

Miscellaneous receipts.

346. The amount of miscellaneous receipts during the year comes to Rs. 5,790-8-7.

Item.	Rs. a. p.
Copying Fee	1,614- 3-6
Cost awarded in civil suits	12-13-0
Sale proceeds of land	2,631-10-6
Mobadla fees	19 -0-0
Stamp duties and fine	304- 5-0
Miscellaneous	1,208- 8-7
Total ...	5,790- 8-7

Probationer.

347. Mr. Bapubhai Naranjee Gohel from the Bhavnagar State visited the department and he was shown the working of the various branches.

N. Giras.

Personnel.

348. The charge of the Giras Adhikari remained with Mr. Anant Narayan Datar, B.A., LL.B., upto 13th February 1925 whereafter it was kept with Mr. Ramlal H. Desai. The post of Giras Assistant was all along held by Mr. K. V. Uplap, B.A., LL.B.. Mr. Ambaidas K. Patel, B.A., LL.B., was appointed Special Giras Assistant for one year under Huzur Order No. 82-20 dated 29th July 1924 and as such he had mainly to conduct appeals in the Residency as State Representative. Even though he was transferred as Petlad

Vibhag Naib Suba from 20th April 1925, he had to do the work in connection with Residency appeals.

Scope and nature of Giras work.

349. There has been no change in the scope and nature of work of the Giras department which as usual has to do the following work :—

(a) Inquiries into and passing decisions in—

1. succession cases, and
2. miscellaneous claims.

(b) Correspondence with the Residency, other departments of the State and Girassias.

(c) Buying up for a lump sum guaranteed lands and cash Haks or commutation of land for an annual Kothali Santh (annuity).

(d) Inspection of Taluka offices and execution of original and appellate courts' decisions.

(e) Representing the State and conducting appeals in the Residency.

Details of work done.

350. There were 60 fresh succession cases, which with the balance of 11 at the end of the preceding year, brought the total to 71. Out of these, 61 were disposed of during the year. There were 34 miscellaneous cases including 3 of the preceding year. Out of them, 33 have been disposed of, leaving a balance of one only.

The Residency references amounting in all to 81 including 2 of the previous year were attended to and 80 of them were disposed of.

Land amounting to Bighas 58–12½ of different villages has been excluded from guarantee on account of acquisition for public purposes, private sales, etc. Out of these, Bighas 0–5 have been made Khalsa and the rest is treated as ordinary Non-guaranteed Barkhali land.

Execution work.

The work of executing the Giras decisions is upto date and there are no arrears.

The following table shows the result of the Giras and Alienation Inquiry appeal decisions by Giras Adhikari during the year:—

Nature of Appeals.	Balance at the end of 1923-24.	New file.	Total.	Disposed of.						Balance at the end of the year.
				Confirmed.	Reversed.	Revised or modified.	Remanded.	Withdrawn.	Rejected as time barred.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Giras.	1	22	23	12	5	2	1	...	...	3
Kadi Inquiry.	...	6	6	6	...	...	...	...	...	...
Baroda Inquiry.	...	4	4	3	1	...	...	...	...	...
Total	1	32	33	21	6	2	1	...	...	3

Note.—Besides the above regular appeals, there were 23 miscellaneous cases of correspondence which with the arrears of last year made up the total of 24. All these have been disposed of leaving no balance at the close of the year.

Residency Giras appeals.

351. During the year, 36 appeals were heard and disposed of by the Resident, out of which 4 were admitted, 16 rejected, 12 modified, 3 were compromised by the parties and one was withdrawn by the appellant. As the result of these appeals claim for guarantee to Bighas 205 was disallowed. It has now been decided that permission of His Highness' government is necessary for the sale of guaranteed land.

Alienation Inquiry work.

352. In the fair season the surveyor attached to the Giras office has split up 14 numbers in 5 villages of 12 Talukas and made corrections in all the papers. He also prepared tracing of one village for which government have received Rs. 4-5-0. Besides these he has disposed of 98 letters out of 112 miscellaneous matters pertaining to survey.

353. Correspondence regarding a scheme for applying settlement to Chakriyat land for which no needful service is rendered and which service is not necessary in these days, is still undergoing discussion.

Important points to be settled.

Correspondence regarding the question of getting the wording of Sec. 2 of the Revenue Rules of 1897 altered so that the matter should be within the competency of His Highness' government, is going on.

The scheme submitted by the Guaranteed Girasias for mutation of names in the case of Dania land in their Wantas which was pending at the close of the last year is dropped as the Girasias do not stick to the agreement that they had made.

354. During the year, no permission was given for filing a suit against any Tributory Guaranteed Thakores.

Miscellaneous work.

355. The temporary establishment has finished the work of preparing Barkhali Patraks. This year Barkhali Patraks of 33 villages (three copies of each) were prepared making thus 99 Barkhali Patraks in all. These were big villages and took up much time. The temporary establishment is now engaged in the important work of preparing Land Registers of each Taluka. During the year, the Land Registers of sixteen Talukas were prepared as under :—

Work of the temporary establishment.

Baroda Prant	Talukas.	1. Saoli,	2. Dabhoi,
		3. Padra,,	4. Vaghodia.
		5. Bhadran,	6. Tilakwada.
Naosari Prant	,,	1. Naosari,	2. Kamrej,
		3. Mangrol.	
Kadi Prant	,,	1. Mehsana,	2 Visnagar,
		3. Kheralu,	4. Kadi,
		5. Sidhpur,	6. Dehgam
		7. Attarsumba.	

The work is being pushed on vigorously. The following statement shows the Alienation Inquiry work done during the year :—

Decisions passed.		(Original and Revision) Bighas.	Execution work.			No. of Notices.	No. of villages of which the Barkhali Patraks are prepared.	Talukas of which Land Registers are prepared.	Remarks.
No. of entries.	No. of Revision Survey.		No. of entry.	No. of Revision Survey.	Bighas.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
25	73	216-17	45	250	747-15	204	Villages 33. (99 copies in all of Barkhali Patraks.)	Baroda Prant. 1. Saoli, 2. Dabhoi, 3. Padra, 4. Vaghodia, 5. Bhadran, 6. Tilakwada,	
								Kadi Prant. 1. Mehsana, 2. Visnagar, 3. Kheralu, 4. Kadi, 5. Sidhpur, 6. Dehgam. 7. Atarsumba.	
								Naosari Prant. 1. Naosari, 2. Kamrej, 3. Mangrol,	

CHAPTER V.

LOCAL SELF GOVERNMENT.

A. Local Boards.

356. The number of District Boards remained unchanged (four) and that of Taluka Boards was 38 as in the preceding year. The Okhamandal Taluka Board began to work with powers of a District Board from the preceding year, while its connection with the Amreli District Board terminated and it began to work separately under the control of the Okhamandal Commissioner. The Village Boards were distributed in the five districts as under :—

Number of Local Boards Institutions.

District.	Number of Village Boards.		Increase.	Decrease.
	1924-25.	1923-24.		
1	2	3	4	5
Baroda...	606	606	...	...
Kadi	912	873	39	...
Navsari	401	394	7	...
Amreli	148	147	1	...
Okhamandal	37	37	...	...
Total...	2,104	2,057	47	...

During the year, 40 new Village Boards were instituted in as many Ankadia villages of Pattan Taluka. One Village Board Masa in Harij Taluka was amalgamated with the Village

Board of Dunawada. Thus the number of Village Boards has increased in the Kadi district. Seven new Village Boards in Mangrol and one in Damnagar Taluka were organised during the year. Hence the increase, on the whole, was 47.

357. The constitution of the District Boards remained unchanged except that of Baroda District Board, which has been authorised during the year to elect its own President for two years. Mr. Tulsibhai Bakorbhai Amin was elected the first President. The Subas were the Presidents of the District Boards of Kadi, Navsari and Amreli and the Naib Subas had to work as Presidents of the Mahal Panchayats (Taluka Boards). Most of the Mahal Panchayats continued to elect their own Vice-Presidents from the non-official members and the Mahal Panchayats of Baroda, Petlad and Bhadran, Pattan, Amreli and Savli were authorised to elect their Presidents. Out of these, the Savli Mahal Panchayat did not exercise this right during the year.

Constitution.

The constitution of the Village Boards remained unchanged. Village Boards in Baroda and Navsari districts were allowed to elect their own Presidents. No Village Board from the districts of Kadi and Amreli was allowed to enjoy this right so far.

358. All the four District Boards were encouraged to engage their own engineering staff, the government contributing the cost in proportion to the expenses incurred on local public works entrusted to them. The system appears to work satisfactorily.

Madras system continued.

359. The following table shows the number of official and non-official members of District and Taluka Boards and their average attendance at the meetings :—

Membership.

District.	Members.			Total.	Average attendance.		Total.
	Elected.	Nominated.			Official	Non-official.	
		Official	Non-official.				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Baroda ...	155	41	37	233	18	121·06	139·06
Kadi ...	173	54	48	275	27·51	131·81	159·32
Navsari ...	105	31	30	166	26·46	75·23	101·69
Amreli ...	66	20	16	102	11·90	47·59	59·49
Okhamandal.	10	3	2	15	1	3·00	4·00
Total ...	509	149	133	791	84·87	378·69	463·56

The number of members was 791 against 788 in the preceding year.

Income.

360. The income of the Boards under the various heads is shown below :—

No.	Heads of income.	1924–25.	1923–24.	Increase.	Decrease.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1	Local Cess (including last year's balance).	12,72,514	11,92,560	79,954	...	The Local Boards of the Amreli district received Local Cess amount of Forest department which was not received before and those of the Navsari district drew upon the past years account from the Bank to meet the expenditure. Hence the increase.
2	Contribution from Government for Public Libraries, Schools and Chowras.	1,87,752	2,56,201	...	68,449	The decrease is due to the fact that less compulsory fines amount was credited to the Kadi District Board.
3	Contribution from private individuals.	46,273	39,587	6,686	...	The Boards in the Baroda and Navsari districts got more donations during the year.
4	Miscellaneous	1,38,255	1,15,838	22,417	...	This item includes the items of adjustment of accounts and thus calls for no remarks.
5	Proceeds from Ferry Boats	25	37	...	12	Nil.
6	Rents from Dharmashalas and Public Buildings.	288	180	108	...	Nil.

No.	Heads of income.	1924–25.	1923–24.	Increase.	Decrease.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7	Recovery of advances and outstanding balances.	20,52,473	15,18,246	5,34,227	...	There was no recovery in the last year in the Navsari district and the Kadi district withdrew amount deposited in Baroda Bank. Besides the item includes the items of adjustment.
8	Reserve Fund	1,75,000	3,59,472	...	1,84,472	There was less demand for Reserve fund during the year.
9	Contribution from P. W. D. for Government works.	2,51,388	4,24,521	...	1,73,133	Few P. W. D. works were transferred to the Local Boards; hence the decrease.
10	Interest on Reserve fund.	47,643	56,534	...	8,891	Less amounts of interest were recovered by the Boards during the year.
	Total....	41,71,611	39,63,176	6,43,392	4,34,957	

361. The following table shows the heads of expenditure by these bodies:—

Expenditure.

No.	Heads of Expenditure.	1924–25.	1923–24.	Increase.	Decrease.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1	Administration	1,20,461	1,16,569	3,892	...	...
2	Civil Works	8,18,913	10,37,483	...	2,18,570	The Local Boards in the Baroda and Amreli districts carried out less works during the year.
3	Education	2,69,751	3,93,910	...	1,24,159	There was adjustment under this item which was not the case during the last year and hence the decrease.
4	Medical and Vaccination.	43,845	30,251	13,594	...	More sums were given to Vaccination department on account of increased charges of lymph and travelling allowances of the staff.
5	Sanitation and other public convenience.	24,683	27,139	...	2,456	Nil.
6	Advances	71,004	77,788	...	6,784	Nil.
7	Miscellaneous	18,82,565	16,98,853	1,83,712	...	The item includes the items of adjustment and the balance deposited in the Banks.

No.	Heads of Expenditure.	1924–25.	1923–24.	Increase.	Decrease.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	Contribution from Local Cess to Municipalities and Vishishtha Panchayats.	17,688	24,972	...	7,284	Nil.
9	Refund of unspent savings of last year.	6,57,462	6,36,000	21,462	...	Kadi District Board credited to Government more unspent savings of Public Works department.
10	Expenditure from last year's balances.	14,051	45,521	...	31,470	Less sums refunded to Taluka Boards from District Boards, hence the decrease.
11	Interest on Reserve fund.	...	3,000	...	3,000	The item is of adjustment.
12	Reserve fund.	1,92,039	...	1,92,039	...	Last year no amount was deducted out of Local cess for Reserve fund and hence the increase.
	Total ...	41,12,462	40,91,486	4,14,699	3,93,723	

362. The following statement compares the charges under the various heads of Civil Works incurred during the year with those of the preceding year :—

Comparison of charges under Civil Works.

Items.	1924-25.	1923-24.
1	2	3
A. Communications :—		
(a) Original	45,336	54,194
(b). Repairs	73,669	77,386
Total...	1,19,005	1,31,580
B. Civil Buildings :—		
(1) Chowras :—		
(a) Original	51,394	46,685
(b) Repairs	77,340	55,174
Total...	1,28,734	1,01,859
(2) Public Buildings, Libraries, etc :—		
(a) Original	1,25,154	74,659
(b) Repairs	17,653	15,713
Total...	1,42,807	90,372
(3) Tile-turning and supervision ...	9,400	11,865
Total Civil Buildings...	2,80,941	2,04,096
C. Water supply :—		
(1) Wells ;—		
(a) Original	1,28,898	1,07,958
(b) Repairs	1,33,423	1,42,625
Total...	2,62,321	2,50,583

Items.	1924-25.	1923-24.
1	2	3
(2) Tanks :—		
(a) Original	6,577	14,734
(b) Repairs	6,832	9,101
Total...	13,409	23,835
(3) Cattle Troughs		
(a) Original	7,149	15,408
(b) Repairs...	14,842	12,254
(c) Filling the troughs	...	90,783
Total...	21,991	1,18,445
Total Water supply...	2,97,721	3,92.863
D. Other Works :—		
(a) Original	9,115	14,249
(b) Repairs	20,572	16,927
Total...	29,687	31,176
E. Other works with the agency of Village Boards	...	...
Total...	...	...
Grand Total...	7,27,354	7,59,715

The above figures will show a decrease of Rs. 32,361 during the year which is under water supply and other works. The reason of the decrease is chiefly due to the fact that the Local Boards in the Baroda district had

to provide for water to villages owing to scarcity of water in the preceding year and had to incur the expenditure of Rs. 90,268 for filling cattle troughs. This was not the case during the year.

Village Boards.

363. Village Boards exercise civil and criminal powers. It would be desirable if a larger number showed themselves qualified for this important work. People would appreciate cheap and speedy justice near their own doors.

General.

364. On the whole, the working of the Local Boards was fairly satisfactory. There is, however, a general disinclination on the part of these bodies to raise funds for useful works by taxation. Efforts are being made to induce them to work in this direction.

B. The Vishishta Panchayats.

The number of Vishishta Panchayats.

365. There were 12 Vishishta Panchayats in the Baroda district, 10 in the Kadi district, 6 in the Naosari district, 3 in the Amreli district and 2 in the Okha division making a total number of 33.

Constitution and special law.

366. The constitution of these Vishishta Panchayats was changed in the year under report. There were half elected and half nominated members of Vishishta Panchayats till the year under report. This proportion was replaced by 2/3 elected and 1/3 nominated according to the amendment of Section 54 of the Gam Panchayat Niyam. These bodies continued combined in themselves the duties of both the Village Boards and Municipalities. They are only a form of developed Gam Panchayats. But the nature of their duties is more akin to those of a Municipality. A special law has, therefore, been drafted for the working of these Panchayats, which is expected to be shortly put on the Statute-book. The number of meetings held by them ranged from 4 to 27 during the year.

Income.

367. The following table shows the annual income of these bodies as compared with that of the preceding year :—

No.	Heads of Income.	1924–25.	1923–24.	Increase.	Decrease.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1	Grant by Government.	21,210	28,383	...	7,173	No subsidy received in Navsari and Okhamandal division and the Vishishta Panchayat of the Kadi district received less sum during the year in various sub-heads; hence the decrease.
2	Municipal Rates and Taxes:-					
	(a) House Tax.	54,035	53,389	646	...	...
	(b) Octroi.	64,456	60,928	3,528	...	The Vishishta Panchayats of the Kadi district realised more sums under this item; so the increase.
	(c) Toll.	5,689	4,871	818	...	
	(d) Water cess.	38,125	35,372	2,753	...	The Vishishta Panchayats of Baroda and Navsari districts received more sums during the y [illegible] the increase.
	(e) Other Taxes.	13,271	12,795	476	...	...
	Total	1,75,576	1,67,355	8,221	7,713	

3	Other sources of income :—					
	(a) Rent from Gamthan lands.	4,294	2,516	1,778	...	...
	(b) Sale of Manure.	423	555	...	132	...
	(c) Receipts from markets and slaughter houses.	2,892	2,135	757	...	...
	(d) Miscellaneous.	72,826	36,229	36,597	...	The excess shows that more sums were realised by these bodies under the various sub-heads.
	Total.	80,435	41,435	39,132	132	
4	Contribution from local-cess.	19,758	16,395	3,363	...	More sums were received from the Panchayats.
	Grand Total.	2,96,979	2,53,568	50,716	7,305	

368. The following table gives the expenditure as compared with that of the preceding year:—

Expenditure.

No.	Heads of expenditure.	1924-25.	1923-24.	Increase.	Decrease.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Administration.	24,321	23,766	555	...	
2	Public safety, lighting, etc.	36,885	33,378	3,507	...	The increase shows that these bodies paid more attention to these necessary items during the year than in the previous year.
3	Public health and convenience (Conservancy, Public Works, Watering roads, etc.)	2,22,084	1,82,000	40,084	...	
	Total.	2,83,290	2,39,144	44,146	...	

369. The work of these bodies is generally inspected by the Sar Suba, the Sanitary Commissioner, Suba, Naib Suba and the Naib Panchayat Adhikari and the accounts of these bodies are audited by the Auditors of the Accounts department.

Inspection.

370. The work of these Panchayats is carried on a much better scale than the work of the ordinary Gam Panchayats. It is, therefore, necessary to make a classification of the Village Panchayats and to induce the bigger Village Bodies to transform themselves into Vishishta Panchayats so as to undertake greater and more befitting responsibilities. People, however, are generally averse to try the experiment apprehending increase of taxation in one form or the other. Efficiency in civic administration would naturally demand larger funds and people are slowly but steadily trained to rightly value the utility of the various forms of Local Government which are now in the process of rejuvenation.

People refuse to accept Vishishta Panchayats.

371. On the whole, the work of the Vishishta Panchayats was satisfactory, taking into consideration their social and economic conditions.

The work is satisfactory.

C. Municipalities.

372. The number of Municipalities continued to be the same as in the preceding year, viz. 11.

The number of Municipalities.

373. The constitution of these bodies remained the same as in the previous year. The Subas of the districts continued to be the Presidents of Petlad and Pattan Municipalities, and the Sub Divisional Naib Subas were the Presidents of the Dabhoi, Visnagar, Sidhpur, Mehsana, Billimora and Gandevi Municipalities. The Municipalities of Navsari and Amreli were empowered to elect their own non-official Presidents instead of ex-officio Presidents. Mr. Dinshaw Daboo, B.A., was the elected President of the Navsari Municipality and Mr. Harilal Govindji Parikh, B.A., LL.B., of the Amreli Municipality during the year. Mr. R. H. Gokhale, B.A., LL.B.,

Constitution.

an elected member of the Municipality, continued to be the President and the Municipal Commissioner of the Baroda City Municipality.

The number of meetings held by each Municipality.

374. The following table shows the number of meetings held by each Municipality during the year and the number of elected and nominated members :—

Name of Municipality.	Number of meetings.	Number of members.	
		Elected.	Nominated.
1	2	3	4
Baroda City...	43	24	12
Dabhoi	14	10	10
Petlad	16	12	12
Sidhpur	17	10	10
Pattan	10	12	12
Visnagar	10	10	10
Mehsana	10	8	8
Navsari	14	12	12
Gandevi	13	8	8
Billimora	29	12	12
Amreli	29	12	12
Total...	188	126	114

The number of meetings held during the previous year was 192.

The total income of all Municipalities.

375. The gross income of all the Municipalities was Rs. 10,88,453 as against Rs. 9,43,499 in the preceding year showing an increase of Rs. 1,44,954.

Income of the Baroda City Municipality.

376. The following table shows the income of the Baroda City Municipality :—

No.	Sources.	1924–25.	1923–24.	Increase.	Decrease.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
1	Government Grant ...	1,65,000	85,000	80,000	...	The full amount of the Government grant, viz. Rs. 1,25,000 as also balance of last year's grant viz. Rs. 40,000 were received making a total of Rs. 1,65,000.
2	Municipal Rates and Taxes—					
	(a) Terminal tax...	2,14,919	2,20,760	...	5,841	The decrease can be traced to the revised schedule with reduced rates of taxes, which came into operation from 1st January 1924 and to the slump in the market, as usual, at the close of the year. During the year the question of rebooking of goods having arisen, it was decided to charge Terminal Tax on goods rebooked. The grant of Rs. 25,000 for the exemption of Government goods for the year 1923–24 and 1924–25 was utilised by the Director of Commerce as per C.O. No. 49–22 dated 20-4–25 for the purpose of refunding the amount to the mills to which concessions were granted. The total amount of Rs.50,000 thus paid to the mill-owners reduces the burden of the Municipality for the refund of Terminal Tax to Rs. 63,028–4–3½.
	(b) Tax on animals and vehicles ...	11,586	11,440	146	...	...

No.	Sources.	1924–25.	1923–24.	Increase.	Decrease.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	(c) Toll	3,105	3,518	...	413	The decrease of Rs. 413 is due to the slump in the market as well as to the greater facilities of railways.
	(d) Water Cess and Water tax ...	1,29,763	1,27,121	2,642	...	The increase is due to the increase in the number of connections on account of the scarcity of water during the year.
	(e) Conservancy ...	31,164	29,799	1,365	...	The increase is due to greater amount having been recovered as also to the increase of connections during the year.
	(f) Drainage ...	15,858	14,483	1,375	...	The increase is due to improved realizations as also to increased number of connections during the year.
	(g) Tax on offensive and dangerous trades	2,743	3,737	...	994	The decrease is due to the less number of permits having been granted during the year.
3	Other sources of revenue ...	59,389	52,819	6,570	...	The excess is due to the increase under the sub-heads and chiefly in the rent of ground and building, sale proceeds and produce of land.
4	Miscellaneous ...	31,576	32,027	...	451	There is an increase in all the sub-heads but the grant of Rs. 1,600 annually given by the government for collecting the rent for government lands has not been received this year, while in the previous year Rs. 3,200 for 2 years were received.
	Total ...	6,65,103	5,80,704	92,098	7,699	

377. The income of the other Municipalities is shown in the following table:—

Income of other Municipalities.

No.	Sources.	1924–25.	1923–24.	Increase.	Decrease.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Municipal Rates and Taxes.	3,05,051	3,04,273	778	...	...
2	Other sources ...	47,709	42,320	5,389	...	The Municipalities of Baroda, Kadi, Navsari and Amreli districts received more sums under the sub–heads of cattle pounds, rent of lands and markets. The income under the sub–heads of Building permits was greater than that in the previous year in the Baroda and Kadi districts and that under the head of Local Cess it was more in the districts of Baroda, Navsari and Amreli. Hence the increase under the head of other sources.
3	Miscellaneous ...	70,590	16,202	54,388	...	The Municipalities of Baroda, Kadi and Navsari districts received more income under the various sub–heads besides the item of adjustment of accounts.
4	Grant from Government.	...	...	...	...	...
	Total...	4,23,350	3,62,795	60,555	...	

378. The total expenditure of all the Municipalities taken together was Rs. 9,39,096 as against Rs. 9,54,761 in the preceding year.

Expenditure of all the Municipalities.

379. The expenditure of the Baroda City Municipality during the year was as follows:—

Expenditure of the Baroda City Municipality.

No.	Sources.	1924–25.	1923–24.	Increase.	Decrease.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	General administration.	1,20,294	1,17,608	2,686	...	The increase is due to the revised grades of salary.
2	Other charges ...	1,11,003	93,139	17,864	...	The excess is mainly due to the expenditure for the new fire engine purchased during the year at a cost of Rs. 23,750.
3	Roads	47,154	63,302	...	16,148	The decrease in expenditure under this head is due to less number of roads having been taken up for repairs during the year and also due to unadjusted bills of the contractors.
4	Other Public Works.	18,057	16,852	1,205	...	The increase is mainly due to the more works having been executed during the year.
5	Conservancy ...	1,09,798	1,07,833	1,965	...	The increase is mainly due to the revised grades for the permanent establishment of the Health department on account of the strike of Bhangis during the year: it might have been required to spend more amount, but on account of stringent measures adopted no appreciable additional expenditure has been incurred.
6	Road watering ...	37,863	37,039	824	...	...

No.	Sources.	1924–25.	1923–24.	Increase.	Decrease.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
7	Lighting	62,170	54,099	8,071	...	The increase is due to the increase in the number of lights and appointment of three Inspectors for the supervision of lighting during the year.
8	Water works ...	50,386	42,947	7,439	...	The increase is due to increase in expenditure over the new works and repairs.
9	Drainage	52,284	60,903	...	8,619	Less amount was spent after the repair of the drainage. During the year the completed portions of the drainage without the pumping stations were handed over to the Municipality by P. W. Department.
10	Compensation ...	5,355	642	4,713	...	More properties having been acquired during the year, there is an increase of Rs. 4,713.
11	City Improvement Trust.	10,000	10,000	...	...	The amount of Rs. 10,000 for the contribution of the Improvement Trust has been paid during the year as in the previous year.
	Total....	6,24,364	6,04,364	44,767	24,767	

380. The following figures represent the principal items of expenditure of the other Municipalities during the year :—

Expenditure of other Municipalities.

No.	Sources.	1924–25.	1923–24.	Increase.	Decrease.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	General administration	30,259	57,361	...	27,102	The Municipalities of Pattan, Gandevi and Billimora have not incurred the expenditure for temporary establishment, and dead-stock articles.
2	Roads and other Public Works ...	59,207	84,513	...	25,306	All the Municipalities except Gandevi incurred less expenditure on roads, wells and buildings.
3	Road Watering ...	10,247	11,071	...	824	...
4	Conservancy	78,392	78,560	...	168	...
5	Lighting	48,333	48,357	...	24	...
6	Other charges ...	71,898	64,166	7,732	...	The excess shows more expenditure incurred in the various sub-heads.
7	Compensation ...	16,396	6,369	10,027	...	More properties were purchased and hence the increase.
	Total...	3,14,732	3,50,397	17,759	53,424	

381. The inspection of these bodies was made by the Sar Suba, the Naib Panchayat Adhikari, the Sanitary Commissioner, the Accounts department Inspecting Officers, the Sub-Divisional Naib Subas and the Subas of the district.

Inspection.

General.

382. In the Navsari district efforts are being made to increase the income of the Gandevi and Billimora Municipalities and it is hoped that the Municipalities will soon be better off than they are now.

Efforts are being made to improve the income of Billimora and Gandevi Municipalities.

383. A new activity is taken up this year by the Navsari Municipality to combat malaria. Anti-malarial campaign was started from 15th of April 1925, and a qualified Medical Officer was engaged. After making a thorough survey of the sanitary conditions of the town, the work of educating the people was undertaken,very useful propaganda work was done by broad-cast distribution of pamphlets and by the organisation of the Anti-malaria Dramatic skit. A fair hunt was made of the breeding places of the mosquitoes in the city and Malaria Survey Maps were prepared for each ward of the municipal area. At the same time spleen index of all the schools children of the city was taken, and relief centres will shortly be organised. Government was pleased to grant Rs. 3,750—half the amount being set aside for the work by the Municipality.

Anti-malaria activity in Navsari.

384. The Amreli Municipality made a grant of Rs. 100 to the exhibition of Weaving and Hand-made articles held by Commerce department and opened by Mr. M. K. Gandhi on the 5th April 1925.

Exhibition of Weaving and hand-made articles.

385. Maharaj Kumar Pratapsinhrao Raje visited Amreli in the month of May and a garden party was given in his honour by this Municipality.

Garden party was given in the honour of Maharaj Kumar Pratapsinhrao Raje.

386. The administration of the Municipalities in the State is, on the whole, satisfactory, looking to the economic, social and civil condition of the people. Popular interest is not evinced as much as is desirable. That may be due to some want of civic spirit on the part of the people. This spirit will come only in course of time, as education and general ideas of living are improved. Efforts in this direction are made in right earnest; and the experiment of allowing the two Municipalities to elect their own Presidents is watched with great interest, as on that depends the pace of progress in Municipal Government.

The principles of Local-self Government are brought to the notice of all non-official members who came in contact with the officers.

CHAPTER VI.

INDUSTRIES.

A. Agriculture.

387. The department continued to be in charge of Mr. C. V. Sane, B.Ag. (Bombay), B.Sc. (Kansas), M.Sc. (Wisconsin).

Personnel.

Two facts in connection with the departmental staff that need notice here are the resignation by Mr. B. G. N. Acharya as Agricultural Engineer owing to a desire to better his prospects and the charge of the Cotton Officer being vested in the Agricultural Inspector, Naosari, for a year.

388. No important administrative changes have occurred during the year beyond increasing the number of second grade Veterinary Surgeons' posts from three to five. This has not solved the initial difficulty, however, of attracting suitable candidates. The only way it seems possible to get their services in Baroda is by training them by giving suitable scholarships.

Administrative changes.

389. There has been a comparative lull this year with regard to meetings of a Provincial or Imperial character. An All-India Agricultural Conference along with a Cattle Conference was to be held at Delhi in January 1925, but the idea was abandoned.

Meetings and Conferences.

With regard to meetings in Baroda, the first place must be given to the meetings of the Cattle and Fodder Improvement Committee, which has been appointed by government and of which the Director of Agriculture is a member.

The Advisory Board meeting took place this year in February 1925, and the departmental activities and programme were placed before the Board for discussion and acceptance.

Besides the Revenue Conference at Naosari and Mehsana at which the district agricultural work was discussed and programme for the next season adopted, the Director also attended the Co-operative Conference at Kodinar, Kosamba and Billimora and discussed the agricultural bearing of the subjects on the agenda.

Two departmental conferences were held during the year, in October, one being for the Veterinary section and the other for the agricultural section. The subjects submitted by members for consideration were discussed, and suitably disposed. Such periodical conferences are valuable as they furnish an opportunity for interchange of ideas which would lead to a greater confidence.

The Director attended the Panchayat Conference and the special Budget Session of the Dhara Sabha and explained the Departmental Budget requirements.

Notable undertakings of the year.

390. Among the notable undertakings of the year, mention must be made of the rules sanctioned by government in connection with the object and working of the Agricultural Engineering Section. These have now been published and have considerably facilitated the working of the section.

Mention may also be made of the detailed technical enquiry of the Palace Dairy and Cattle Breeding Farm undertaken by the Director at the suggestion of government.

The principal outstanding features of the year's work.

391. Among the principal outstanding features of the year's work may be considered the following :—

(a) the unabated extension of tractor cultivation. No less than thirty new tractors have been added to the previous total, nine of which were sold in the Baroda territories ;

(b) a beginning has been made in the joint sale of cotton at Kapura in Vyara Taluka. This experiment is watched with great interest.

(c) extensive comparative tests of Pusa wheat with the local Vajia have been obtained in six Talukas and in twenty-four fields in the Kadi district; and

(d) an extensive propaganda in pit silos by Co-operative Societies.

Mention may also be made here of the find of an artesian flow at a depth of 175 ft. from the ground level at Manupur, a new village established in February 1925 in the Chanasma Taluka.

Tagavi.

392. Applications for Tagavi advances for installation of Oil Engine and Pump were received from seven persons totalling a loan of Rs. 33,550 and for tractor purposes from three applicants totalling a demand of Rs. 21,500 amounting in all to Rs. 55,050. Out of the recommended applicants, the Revenue department, which is doing the work of disbursing the loans for agricultural work, advanced the following amounts in the undermentioned districts :—

District.	Persons.	Amount.
		Rs.
Baroda	3	14,000
Amreli	2	8,500
Naosari	1	2,000
Total ...	6	24,500

Finances. Total and by Sections.

393. The total expenditure of the department came to Rs. 1,29,281—7—1 as against Rs. 1,52,225-12-6 last year. Receipts came to Rs. 56,403-11-3 as against Rs. 50,640-9-5 last year.

The following table gives the figures under the principal activities separately :—

No.	Item.	Expenditure.	Receipts or Contribution.
		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
1	Head Office	17,141–14– 6	523– 6– 6
2	Agricultural Engineering including Boring... ...	18,278– 4– 5	5,511–10– 8
3	Agricultural Farms ...	21,775– 0– 5	12,326–12– 8
4	Dairy and Cattle Farm ...	33,285–10–10	18,333–11– 0
5	Propaganda	9,740–11– 4	10– 0– 0
6	Veterinary Dispensaries ...	29,059–13– 7	19,698– 2– 5
	Total ...	1,29,281– 7– 1	56,403–11– 3

Seasonal conditions and crop prospects.

394. The seasonal conditions of the year have been, on the whole, satisfactory. The monsoon commenced rather early by a week particularly for Kadi and Amreli, and kept up an excellent pace specially for Naosari. The intensity of the wave, however, had considerably diminished so far as Baroda district was concerned. The September rains were specially very opportune. For the Amreli district, the season commenced extremely well, but there was too long a gap between the next wave reaching this part; conditions improved in the latter part of August with the setting in of a strong monsoon current; similar waves having followed in the second and fourth week of September, the whole out-look of the season changed from almost a failure to a slightly sub-normal one. Okhamandal, however, remained sub-normal throughout. The late September rains in Baroda did considerable damage to mature standing crops, but improved the prospects of the cold weather crops considerably. The season thus closed with an excellent harvest for Naosari and a fair one for all the rest of the territory.

Condition of drinking water.

395. Although water shortage was not acutely felt, the cycle of lean years through which the country has been passing has made this a chronic question as far as the supply of drinking water is concerned.

Damage to standing crop.

396. No serious insect pest or crop disease requiring special attention was reported during the year; but spells of cold weather visited the country in quick succession, causing considerable damage by frost on more than one occasion specially in the lighter sections of the soil, the cotton and castor having particularly suffered in the Kadi district, and wheat to a lesser extent.

Grouping of departmental activities.

397. The working of the department may conveniently be divided into three main sections: (A) Agricultural; (B) Agricultural Engineering. (C) Veterinary.

(A) AGRICULTURAL.

In the Agricultural Section are included the following activities :—

(a) Farms.
(b) Dairy.
(c) Propaganda.

(a) FARMS.

Agricultural Stations.

398. The department has under its control two principal farms—one at Baroda and the other at Jagudan in the Kadi district. A special farm near Dabhoi has been recently opened for demonstrating the best use of the Wadhwana Tank water.

A farm for Amreli district has been ordered to be opened at Amreli and arrangements are being made to select a suitable site.

(1) *The Baroda Farm.*

Situations.

399. The farm is situated about a mile from the Baroda Railway Station on the Alembic Factory Road and represents the Goradu soil tract of the Baroda district. Its total area is 84 acres, out of which about 67 acres were under cultivation.

The principal crops grown are bajri, cotton, and cotton mixtures, castor, castor and ground nut, ground-nut, tur and ground-nut and other tur mixtures, Sundhia, Jawar, tobacco,

wheat, lucerne, onions and English vegetables. A fruit plantation of about four and half acres, mostly guavas, is also being grown on the farm.

Character of the season and rain-fall.

400. The monsoon started somewhat early on 15th of June and gave a total rainfall of 25·49 inches in 54 days. The rainfall was thus below normal but a fair one for crop production. Of this total amount, more than six inches were received in September, the greater part of which accompanied as it was with a storm affected the harvest to a certain extent.

A succession of frosty weather almost destroyed the cotton crop which otherwise would have given a fair outturn, inspite of heavy loss by wilt and white ants. The scourge of wilt is on the increase specially in certain fields and a suitable substitute has to be found to replace the crop.

Chief items of work.

401. Principal crop work is in connection with cotton, Bajri and castor in dry crops, and wheat, tobacco and onions among the irrigated. The standard spacing between rows for cotton is now fixed at four feet as it has given consistently good results. Another practice worthwhile recommending to farmers is in connection with May sowing of cotton. This test has gone on now for a number of years and it is found that wherever a couple of waterings could be depended upon in the early season, it is a method of cotton growing which will amply pay for the extra expenditure of watering. It has the further advantage of having nearly half the crop before there is any damage from frost. During the year, nearly three-fourths of the plants in the acre plot were destroyed by wilt, but still those that were left yielded 413 lbs. of seed cotton and nearly half of it was collected by 1st March, i.e. before the general picking of the other cottons commenced.

The manurial test on cotton gave no comparable returns since the crop suffered heavily and unevenly from a series of frost attacks

The whole question of successful cotton cultivation on the farm at any rate turns on ability to withstand the inroads of wilt.

Results of manuring onions with artificial manures have been so striking that the method has been recommended for trial even in the district. During the year, the use of 400 lbs. of sodium nitrate very nearly doubled the out-turn of onions and gave an increase of over 350 mds per acre at an additional cost of Rs. 60 or so.

In the wheat trials it is found that as a single crop of the year following green manure, a profitable crop could be grown specially if the cold season happens to be very pronounced as was the case during the year. As a second crop after Bajri, a heavier dose of artificial manure is needed to obtain a good crop.

With regard to types of wheat suitable for cultivation, it seems that both Pusa 4 and Pusa 12 do equally well under suitable conditions but Pusa 4 is better priced in the market, the difference being about Rs. 0-8-0 per md. of 40 lbs. Further trials in this connection will be continued. The yield varied from 2,272 lbs. to 3,373. lbs per acre this year.

Considerable attention is being given to fruit culture tests on the farm. Figs which did so well last season, were off in flavour this season, although a good crop was borne. With regard to grapes the difficulty of timely and expert pruning has not yet been got over, and since in vine cultivation pruning is the principal factor governing fruit production, much progress has not been achieved in this direction.

Arrangements are being made to put down a part of the farm area to fruit culture tests of other crops also and the work in all likelihood will be taken up during the next season.

The silo on the farm was filled as usual and gave a good percentage of useful fodder. The cost of the sillage worked out at Rs. 9-14-0 per 1,000 lbs.

Out-turn figures.

402. The results of care exercised in the farm cultivation is best seen in a bad season. The average out-turn figures of the last year when the rainfall was about 16 inches are shown in comparison with this year when the rainfall measured 25 inches.

No.	Crop.	Average yield per acre in 1923–24. Rainfall 16·27.	Average yield per acre in 1924–25. Rainfall 25·49.
		mds. lbs.	mds. lbs.
1	Bajri	29—39	23—13
2	Cotton	16—28	5—23*
3	Castors	14— 2	16—21

* Less yield owing to loss by frost in addition to wilt and white ants.

Even so the out-turns realised are quite good except in the case of cotton.

403. The total expenditure of the farm including establishment came to Rs. 14,429-3-11, and the income to Rs. 9,473-2-5. The total of farm contingencies alone came to Rs. 10,804-4-11.

Expenditure and receipts.

(2) *The Jagudan Farm.*

404. This farm is situated near the Railway Station of Jagudan about seven miles from Mehsana and represents the light sandy soil of that part. The area of the farm is about 25 Bighas.

Situation.

405. The rain was in point of quantity a normal one, but very poor in the way of intensity, which is necessary to fill in the village tanks. This will be realised from the fact that in the whole of the rainy period there were only five records showing more than an inch of rain, once in July, once in August and thrice in September. The total number of rainy days came to 26, recording a total rain-fall of 22·56 inches almost the average of the tract.

Seasonal conditions.

Katras among insect pests had done considerable damage. There was little damage by rust on wheat but frost on more than one occasion took heavy toll for cotton and castor and to a lesser extent for wheat.

406. The principal work of the farm is in connection with popularisation of Pusa wheat in the district. During the year, returns of Pusa 12, which has been found to be the most suitable type to distribute, gave an average out-turn of 2,200 lbs per acre and a maximum of 2,800. A large part of the farm produce is distributed in the district for demonstration of its superiority over the local types.

Principal work on the farm.

The other important work is in connection with the extension of fruit trees. Among these, the citron has received first attention and a good crop of Santras is being harvested for the last two or three years, more than 2,000 fruits being sold during the year. Its extension in the district will occupy the attention of the propaganda section next year.

A circular pit silo measuring about 10 ft. in diameter and 7½ ft. deep was filled on this farm by the end of September. Out of 9,533 lbs. of green Sundhia filled in, nearly half the quantity was serviceable as fodder and was used for the farm bullocks from 5-4-25 to 17-5-25.

The total expenditure of the farm came to Rs. 4,721-0-2 and the income to Rs. 2,560-7-8.

(3) *The Dabhoi Wadhavana Plots.*

407. This agricultural station can hardly be called a farm, although the need of a permanent station is very urgently felt. These plots are situated about two miles from the Dabhoi Railway Station on the side of the Waghodia line. The object is to demonstrate the best way the Wadhavana tank water could be utilised. The object, however desirable, does not appear to be a popular one.

Site and work.

The season last year not only opened early, but contrary to usual expectation of having a short rainfall season, it actually went to more than 36 inches. This naturally changed the basis of work.

(b) DAIRY.

408. This institution is located in the suburb of Baroda at Makerpura about four miles from the city. Its main object has been to build up a pedigree herd of Kathiawad breed of Gir cows and Jafferabadi buffaloes. A farm of about 30 acres is attached to the institution for purposes of fodder supply. A detailed technical inspection of the institution was undertaken and submitted to government, and the Dairy has now been transferred to the Director of Commerce and Industries. The management was handed over from 1st of July 1925, but to minimise account difficulties, it was decided to let the budget for the year be shown under this department where it had been for the most of the year. Since the budget for the year is allocated under this department it will be convenient to have the figures of expenditure and income noted here. They are, expenditure Rs. 33,285-10-10 and income Rs. 18,333-11-0.

Dairy transferred to the Director of Commerce and Industries.

409. The live stock on hand at the end of the year is reported at 125 against 160 of last year; the milch stock consisted of 38 cows and 21 buffaloes.

Strength of herd and health of stock.

The health of the stock, on the whole, has been fair. An out-break of hœmorrhægic septicæmia took place among buffaloes and took away three victims. Prompt inoculating stopped further attacks from the disease.

A mild attack of rinder pest had also broken out, but timely measures brought the disease under control without any fatality.

Diarrhœa in sucking calves carried away 26 of the young stock, 16 of the buffalo and 10 from the cow class.

410. The total quantity of milk produced during the year came to 1,07,961·5 lbs. The milk produce from cows came to lbs. 69,448·5 and from buffaloes to 38,513 lbs.

Milk produce and supply.

57,015·5 lbs. of the total milk yield was supplied to the General Hospital, 15,189 lbs. to the Palace and 12,109·5 to other customers. The rest of the milk, viz: 23,647 5 lbs. was separated, yielding 2,331 lbs. of cream.

411. Although increase of milk yield in the pail is an inevitable result of weaning, it cannot be considered the main object of weaning. The main object of weaning is to reduce the long dry period between lactations, and to bring about more regular calving. It is noted with satisfaction that weaning is having this general effect. The one instance may be quoted as remarkable since the dry period between lactation is expected to be reduced to only 100 from the 530 dry days of the previous lactation.

Effect of weaning.

412. The total fodder consumed during the year came to 6,04,309 lbs.; 2,49,834 lbs. out of this was produced on the farm and 3,54,475 lbs. was bought from the market.

Fodder produced and consumed.

Out of a total farm produce of 2,49,834 lbs. only 8,1995 lbs. was put in the silo pits, i.e. just about a third. Out of six silo pits filled during the year four were, opened and gave good silage, the total percentage of loss coming to 18·8. Two siloes, one of Sundhia and the other of grass, have been kept over to see how the silage keeps after a season's lapse.

(c) PROPAGANDA WORK.

413. The propaganda work is carried on by three agencies: (1) work by district staff; (2) demonstration and shows, and (3) publications.

Agencies of work.

(1) *Work by District staff.*

414. The principal work in connection with Naosari refers to cotton. The Cotton Transport Act came into operation for the first time this year and considerable care had to be exercised in giving effect to the Act, at the same time trying to remove real hardship as much as possible, consis-

Work of the Cotton Officer.

tent with the spirit of the Act. Thus four check stations were placed at Ukai, Wankwel, Gaysabar and Don on the Songadh frontier to prevent Nawapur cotton from coming in, and licenses were issued to fifteen villages of Kamrej Taluka embanked on the Tapti which produced cotton of a superior zone although territorially placed on the north bank of the river.

415. A beginning was made during the year for conjoint sale of cotton, with a view to encourage co-operative selling.

Joint sale of cotton.

Ground was being prepared for the venture at Kapura in Vyara for the last two years and a few people were at last persuaded to give a trial to the measure. As is the fate of all pioneers, they had to contend against great obstacles and a fire broke out in the gin where these people had stocked their cotton. Fortunately for them and the movement, their cotton suffered no damage and beyond having to cart their cotton to a gin some distance, the people came out of the accident without much harm.

The people naturally had to be helped at every step by the Cotton Officer but it is a movement worth taking considerable trouble and as a result a premium of Rs. 21 was received. A part of this produce had to be sold on a falling market or the average price for the people who sold their cotton jointly would have shown a greater advantage than Rs. 6 (six) per *Bhar* as it actually turned out. As a result, Rs. 2,196 more were realised by the joint sellers than they might otherwise had, and with 38 members it averaged about Rs. 58 per member. The people having come out successful in spite of the accident and other difficulties, are feeling much more confident about its operations next season and it is hoped the method will spread as the benefit becomes better known.

A co-operative sale society has been registered at Karjan in Kamrej Taluka and its operation next season will be watched with great interest by all concerned. Other

centres have also shown their willingness to join in the same movement and it is expected that the Special Cotton Officer will be of great assistance to the people in the preliminary stages.

Distribution of improved seed.

416. Another important activity in the cotton section is the distribution of improved seed. Various centres for seed distribution are employed. During the season, about 3,61,800 lbs. have been so distributed. A considerable portion of this is given by an arrangement with the gin owners, some has been issued to co-operative societies and the rest is made up by sale from the seed depots in the neighbouring British territories. Where special facilities for such a centre were needed, a departmental seed store was arranged and the seed distributed even at some loss. One such depot was opened during the year at Simodra in Mangrol.

Work of Agricultural Inspectors.

417. The other propaganda work in the Naosari district is in connection with trials of an early finer variety of rice in place of 'Kada' This year's results have been exceedingly gratifying and nearly the whole produce from such tests in the district amounting to about 500 mds. has been reserved for seed purposes. In addition 60 mds. of fresh seed were ordered and sold. It promises to open up a large field for action for propaganda purposes if the extensive trials to be taken on hand next season give equally satisfactory results. The other direction in which propaganda work is being carried on is with regard to manures. Tests were arranged with bone-meal for rice and sodium-nitrate for cotton and onions. The results of the last of these tests have been so striking that an increase of 50 to 100 mds. of onions has been gained by the use of 1 to 2 mds. of sodium-nitrate. Power crushing of cane, the use of copper sulphate to prevent smut in Jowar and the use of modern machinery are other lines of demonstration work.

In the Baroda district principal attention is given to the manurial problem for tobacco. The last three years have been spent almost for preparing the ground since considerable

prejudice in this matter had to be overcome. It has now been established to the satisfaction of the discerning and progressive tobacco growers that in sodium nitrate we have got a substance to which the plant readily responds even when given as top dressing in addition to the usual proportion of farm yard manure. The farm yard manure, however, is limited in quantity and there is keen competition for securing it. Prices of this manure have accordingly gone very high and hence the problem of finding a partial substitute has arisen. A beginning was made last year in reducing the farm yard manure dose by half and by compensating it by 100 lbs. of sodium-nitrate. As a result, it is found that this reduction of dose and its substitution by sodium-nitrate has, without adding to the cost of manuring, increased the out-turn by about 200 lbs. which is, therefore, a net margin of gain. The tests will be further continued and repeated until the point is proved to the conviction of all. A small test with sodium-nitrate as manure for cotton was tried with encouraging results. The tests will be repeated next season before adopting a propaganda in that direction.

In the Kadi district, the principal propaganda work pertains to extension of Pusa wheat. With the assistance of the Kadi Agricultural Association, selected seed from the Jagudan farm was issued to four certified growers in each of the six Talukas of Kadi, Sidhpur, Patan, Mehsana, Visnagar and Kheralu for comparative tests with the local Wajia, and the results of these tests have been very gratifying. Thus as an average of the trials at 18 places, the out-turn works out at about 2,300 lbs. to the acre, which may be considered to be a very good out-turn. The best result works out at 3,461 lbs. of wheat per acre. The corresponding average out-turn per acre of Wajia in these tests came to 1,700 lbs. and the best to 2,856 lbs.

The use of copper sulphate for smut prevention has been taken up as an intensive propaganda and resulted in 1,700 acres being sown with treated seed. The rainfall conditions, however, have been unsatisfactory and the treatment could not give telling results.

A beginning is being made in the trial of the improved strain of Wagad isolated at Viramgam and intended to replace the present mixture.

Amreli district is having a run of such lean years that agriculture in the tract is becoming more and more a matter of chance. This has made crop tests on the farmers' fields an impossible task. It has, therefore, now been decided to open a government farm to take up the agricultural problems of the district. Most of the propaganda work must have as its basis a fair season and this we are denied in Amreli for the last couple of years. The work in demonstrating Poona furnace is very valuable and was shown at one place in Damnagar with success, but the area under sugar cane is also shrinking owing to water shortage. Cotton and wheat are two important crops in Amreli and the opening of the farm, it is hoped, will enable the department to tackle the crop in a continuous manner.

Co-operative silage.

418. An activity that deserves special mention is in connection with the intensive propaganda carried on for acquainting the agriculturists with regard to the possibility of silage in ordinary farming. The way of its successful demonstration was opened up owing to the intense interest the Registrar of Co-operative Societies exhibited in the work. He formed about 20 special societies for undertaking silage work alone. 3,575 mds. of green fodder was thus ensiled and the resulting silage in many cases has been found to be of a satisfactory nature by the people. It may thus be said that the possibility of preserving green fodder in an edible condition has been fairly demonstrated. One point that is to be borne in mind in this connection is that all the silage was by the 'Kacha pit silo' method and that while we have heard a lot regarding the possibilities of silage in this country, the Baroda farmer is the first to demonstrate its practicability on such a large scale. This year's propaganda, it is hoped, will open the way for more tests of the kind and the movement will be watched with great interest by all.

(2) *Demonstration and Shows.*

Demonstration at the Baroda Farm and Dairy.

419. No big show was held during the year but an opportunity was taken to show the members of the Legislative Assembly the work done at the Baroda Farm and the Palace Dairy.

Tractor demonstration.

420. The occasion of the meeting of the Advisory Board and Panchayat Conference was availed of for arranging tractor demonstration, on the Baroda farm along with other work. Case, International, John Deere and Chase tractors were arranged for demonstration. An interesting Cinema show was given in the evening, in co-operation with the Visual Instruction Branch; the tractor farming film was kindly supplied by Agents for the Case tractor.

(3) *Publications.*

Khedut Panchang.

421. The annual agricultural calendar in Gujerati was published as usual and was immediately sold out.

Gujerati Agricultural Quarterly.

422. The quarterly Kheti and Sahakarya is being published as usual.

(B) AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING.

Charge.

423. The section remained in charge of Mr. B. G. N. Acharya until his resignation from 2nd March 1925. Since then the charge has remained with Mr. H. C. Gandhi as a temporary measure.

Machinery on hand.

424. The department has four Power-boring machines, two of the Musto type and two Calyx, and nineteen hand machines of the Cawnpore type. One Musto and Calyx and 6 hand sets were put to work in the Kadi district, three Cawnpore sets worked in Baroda and one Calyx and Musto worked in Naosari and Amreli respectively.

425. Although agriculturally the season was fair to normal, the difficulty of water supply in drinking wells continued. The Kadi District Local Board has now organised its own boring section to meet this difficulty and the only work the Agriculture department did on its behalf was for Gunja. Sweet water was struck in the well at a depth of 225 ft. but owing to its sub surface level, a hand pump of about 300 gallons per hour capacity had to be fitted to test the flow. The village people found it insufficient and a new bore is intended to be made by the Panchayat.

Demand for Boring.

426. The number of applications received during the year came to 69 and with thirty applications from the last season the total number came to 99. 71 wells out of these were taken up with the following results. 46 were successful, 2 unsuccessful, 15 abandoned at the request of the owners and 8 left incomplete. The total increase of water is calculated at 84 koses. The total boring in feet came to 4,702.

Work done during the year.

427. The departmental Fordson tractor was sent to Vyara to operate the cane power-crusher and rendered a successful account of its use. It was also used to demonstrate power cultivation after the cane crushing work was over.

Tractor work.

A trial of the Hand Tractor was taken in interculturing cotton in 3 acres. The result of the test, however, does not appear to be very encouraging.

The Fordson tractor was used on the Baroda farm to a much larger extent and was found a useful supplement. It was also used for giving power cultivation demonstration whenever required.

The advance of the tractor has gone on during the year unabated. 8 Case, 13 International and 9 John Deere tractors have been sold and nine of these are in Baroda territory. There is a considerable effort at consolidation of the tractor advance and the question of its being made serviceable in ordinary farming is already before those who have forged ahead in this progressive measure for opening up new lands.

The working of the tractor has been a success in Baroda alone, and it is in no small measure due to the foresight of the government in according facilities to the users in the way of operation and repairs. The services of the Agricultural Engineer were freely given whenever needed and the tractor operator has often been able to help people over slight difficulties. It will be necessary to keep up this assistance until like the oil engine and pump the tractor becomes a necessary farm equipment in suitable surroundings.

Tractor & oil engine class.

428. An oil engine and tractor class was conducted and was well availed of by those who were interested in these problems.

Expenditure.

429. The total expenditure on this section came to Rs. 18,278-4-5 and the income to Rs. 5,511-10-8.

(C) VETERINARY.

Strength and distribution of Veterinary Dispensaries.

430. Thirteen dispensaries continued to work during the year according to the new policy of contributing one-third of the expenditure by Government and the rest by Local Boards.

Five of these dispensaries are situated in the Baroda district, at Baroda, Petlad, Bhadran, Dabhoi and Sankheda; four in Naosari district, at Vyara, Kathor, Vesma and Karchalia; and four in Kadi, at Mehsana, Pattan, Sidhpur and Vijapur.

Cases treated.

431. The total number of fresh cases admitted in the dispensary was 14,731 against 14,342 of the previous year. Out of these, 14,407 were out-door and 324 in-door patients. The daily average attendance for all these dispensaries combined came to 295·48 for out-door and 7·52 for in-door patients. Last year's cases on hand at the beginning of the year were 310. Cases treated on tour came to 630.

Class of patients.

432. Out of animals coming for treatment, 2,199 were horses, 10,322 were cattle, 492 dogs and 1,719 of the miscellaneous class of goats, sheep, camels, etc.

433. Altogether 41 reports of out-break of epidemic diseases were received during the year. 17 of these were for rinder-pest, 14 for hœmorrhagic septicæmia, and 10 for foot and mouth disease.

Outbreak of epidemics.

Out of total number of 1,075 preventive inoculations, 878 were for rinder-pest and 197 for hœmorrhagic septicæmia.

434. Mr. S. M. Vasavada was confirmed as Veterinary Inspector during the year. All the dispensaries were duly inspected and reports submitted with regard to the working of the various dispensaries and due action was taken as indicated by the Inspector.

Inspection.

435. The Veterinary Inspector tested the Burdizzo method of castration and the results of Karchalia show a further demand for its use in the district.

Use of Burdizzo Castration.

436. The total expenditure for working the dispensaries came to Rs. 29,059-13-7 and the income came to Rs. 19,497-11-2 by contribution and Rs. 200-7-3 from miscellaneous receipts.

Finance.

B. Commerce and Industry.

I. Administration.

437. Dr. S. M. Pagar held the office of the Director of Commerce, Industries and Statistics, and also of the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies throughout the year.

Personnel.

The Director also worked as a member of the City Improvement Trust now amalgamated with the City Executive Engineer's office, Indian Central Cotton Committee and its local Sub-committee, Finance Committee, Railway Stores purchase Committee, Railway Advisory Board, Land Mortgage Bank Committee, Committee for the selection of Industrial sites, Committee for the acquisition of land for industries and the Baroda State Legislative Council and had to attend 82 meetings during the year as against 63 in the previous year.

Mr. Dotivala returned from Europe in April and worked as Special Duty Officer in this department.

Touring.

438. The Director of Commerce spent 71 days in touring as against 85 in the last year.

Interviews.

439. As usual, enquiries from persons interested in industries and allied subjects were numerous. In this connection the Director had no less than 230 interviews—an unmistakable sign of the usefulness of the department.

II. Important Activities and Events.

The Economic Advisory Board Meeting.

440. The world-wide trade depression continued unabated and it was thought wise to consult the industrial leaders by calling a meeting of the Advisory Board for solving some of the problems confronting the development departments of Agriculture, Co-operation, Forests, Commerce and Industry. The meeting was held on 1st February 1925 under the presidency of the Minister, whose address is given in Appendix 2.

Presidential speech.

441. The President, in opening the proceedings, welcomed the delegates and visitors and expressed his sorrow at the death of Mr. Khaserao Jadhav, the permanent President of the Board. He then reviewed at length the adverse effects on trade and commerce owing to the all pervading trade depression and assured the delegates that government would continue their liberal policy of helping deserving industries.

Suggestions.

442. Dr. Pagar, the Secretary, then laid on the table the annual programme of work outlined by the departments concerned and the proceedings of the last meeting. There were altogether twelve suggestions sent by the various members. The suggestions were referred to two sub-committees for prompt report—one dealing with questions relating to the Commerce and Forest departments was presided over by Mr. A. N. Datar, the Sar Suba, while the other for Co-operation and Agriculture was presided over by Mr. M. B. Nanavati, the Navsari Prant Suba.

These committees after discussing thoroughly all the suggestions placed before them, submitted their reports to the Board, which were unanimously approved by the whole Board. As usual, the Board appointed two committees to deal with the various departmental questions.

The Empire Exhibition.

443. The Empire Exhibition, in which the Baroda State participated, came to a close by the end of October 1924. This exhibition afforded, for the first time, an opportunity to bring to the notice of the Empire the natural resources of the State and its arts and crafts. That almost all the exhibits were sold and a fresh stock of Sankheda lacquer-ware had to be sent proves the success of the Baroda Court.

Distinguished visitors.

444. The Baroda Court from the outset attracted large crowds of spectators. Many distinguished visitors including Their Majesties the King Emperor and the Queen, H. R. H. the Prince of Wales, His Highness the Maharaja and Her Highness the Maharani Sahebs, and Lord Oliver the then Secretary of State for India, paid a visit to our court and expressed their high appreciation.

Thanks to Messrs. Jardine and Dotivala.

445. The entire management of the Baroda Court was entrusted to Mr. Dotivala under the direct supervision and guidance of Mr. Jardine. Mr. Jardine gave his advice and guidance free of charge and helped Mr. Dotivala in solving the knotty question of subletting a portion of our court and thereby rendered excellent service to the State. Mr. Dotivala succeeded in disposing of almost all our exhibits.

Amreli Exhibition.

446. A successful arts and handicrafts exhibition was organised at Amreli in April 1925. The exhibition was organised under the joint auspices of the Amreli Local Board Institutions and the Commerce department. The Suba of Amreli worked as President and Mr. H. G. Parikh as Secretary. The Commerce department lent the services of Mr. Adalja to the Organising Committee and also contributed Rs. 250 towards prizes. The exhibition was unique of its kind at

Amreli during recent years and exhibited the best handspun and woven fabrics in the district. The exhibition was opened by Mr. M. K. Gandhi and was kept open to the public for eight days. The exhibition proved an immense success and attracted huge crowds from Amreli and places round about.

Chambers of Commerce.

447. With a view to consolidate the various trading interests, the department framed a set of model rules for helping people organising Chambers of Commerce in the State. Two Chambers—one at Mehsana and one at Amreli—have been organised and it is hoped others would follow their example.

III. INDUSTRIES.

General features.

448. The trade depression has hit hard our staple industries such as cotton mills and the cement factory at Dwarka. The government is doing all in its power to save these concerns but the prospects are gloomy

The General policy of the State.

449. The Industrial policy of the State continued to be consistently liberal and the desire to help capitalists within the limits of the State resources was as keen as ever. The Industrial Development Rules were first published in 1914. With the change of time and circumstances, these rules have been suitably modified and sanctioned. The new rules came into force from 1–8–1925.

Old industries.

450. In spite of the wide–spread trade slump our old and established industries did fairly good work. Their profits have been diminished but a good many of them have declared dividends ranging from 4½% to 25%.

The Textile Mills.

451. The Kalol Spinning and Weaving Mills, the Dadabhai Mills and the Billimora Mills, which were expected to start work this year, did not complete their installation of machinery for lack of

financial help. The Darbhanga Mills were sent into liquidation, but after paying off the first mortgage debentures worth 7 lacs held by the State, have resumed their operations under the name of the New Darbhanga Mills.

During the last five years the Textile Mills in the State have shown substantial and rapid progress. In 1920-21 there were only 4 mills working as against 13 in 1924-25. The capital employed was about 32 lacs in 1920-21 as against 189 lacs in 1924-25—an increase of six hundred per cent. The looms and spindles in 1920-21 were 722 and 53,426 as against 2,096 and 1,84,878 in 1924-25 respectively -an increase of three hundred per cent. The yarn produced amounted to 33 lacs of lbs. in 1920-21 as against 130 lacs of lbs. in 1924-25. The production of cloth, which was more than 22 lacs of lbs. in 1920-21, rose to 56 lacs of lbs. in 1924-25. The daily wage earners have increased from 2,300 to over 6,500. Similarly the Cotton Excise Duty derived by the State has increased from Rs. 1·28 lacs to Rs. 2·61 lacs during the last five years, showing more than a hundred per cent increase. It is thus evident that the textile industry has kept pace with the other progressive developments in the State.

Chemical and allied Industry.

452 Inspite of the help from the department and inspite of the good future prospects for the industry the share-holders, for lack of confidence in the management, took the Modern Chemical Works into liquidation, but it is hoped that some one will come forward to run the re-organised factory on an efficient basis.

The Alembic Chemical Works Company, Ltd. is doing useful work and with a view to increase its usefulness and efficiency, government deputed Mr. Dotivala for four months to help it in solving its fermentation problems so as to increase the present yield of alcohol from Mahuda flowers. Mr. Dotiwala's report is sent to the Company for guidance.

The concessions granted for developing the Alkali Industry at Dwarka and Kodinar have been cancelled owing to the lack of interest, shown by the parties concerned.

Cement and allied industries.

453. The Dwarka Cement Factory produced 13,570 tons of cement in 1924 and paid Rs. 2,544-6-2 as Royalty. The factory has been closed since June 1924 for lack of working capital and depressed condition of the market. In view of the development of Beyt Harbour, it is highly necessary that this industry should be restarted.

The Ransipur China Clay lease has been cancelled; negotiations with a new party are progressing. It is expected that the works will be started early next year.

Administration of the Mining Act.

454. Two approval certificates were renewed this year as against two last year. One new application for approval certificate was received as against two last year. One application for a Mining lease was under consideration of government.

New industries.

455. Owing to the unfavourable condition of trade no large industrial concerns were promoted but the industrial activities were not altogether dormant. Three Ginning Factories in the Dehgam Taluka, one Ginning Factory at Kosamba, three Cotton Presses—one at Dehgam, one at Maroli and the third at Kodinar—two Cattle Breeding Associations—one at Baroda and the other at Naosari—and one Grinding and Saw Mill at Baroda were promoted.

Loans to industries.

456. Two new applications for loans amounting to Rs. 80,000 were received. One of these applications was from the Damnagar Weaving factory for a new loan of Rs. 20,000 so as to enable the proprietor to equip his factory with a sizing machine. The proprietor already owes to government Rs. 25,000 as the first mortgage on the factory worth about Rs. 50,000 and for this reason it was not thought safe to lend him more money. The other application was from the Uttar Gujarat

Gopalan Co., Ltd., for a loan of Rs. 60,000 to be utilised in a scheme for horse breeding. The Company is not doing its present work efficiently and hence the application was rejected.

Building loans.

457. There was one application for a loan of Rs. 5,000 pending since last year under the departmental rules for giving loans to State Officers for building houses of their own. The application was sanctioned. The modifications in the existing rules to enlarge the scope of their working are under consideration.

Acquisition of land.

458. There were six applications for the acquisition of land for factories under the special rules. But the parties were persuaded to carry on negotiations privately, all of which met with success.

Factory sites.

459. Three applications were received for approval of factory sites, all of which were sanctioned by the local officers concerned. None of the applications came within the powers of the permanent committee for approval of factory sites.

Applications under the Development Rules.

460. There were 11 applications for various kinds of concessions under section 15 of the Development Rules. The previous year's balance was 2. Of these 13 applications, seven were sanctioned with modifications, two were rejected, and four were pending at the end of the year. The concessions granted consisted of (1) extension of the preliminary period of concessions already granted ; and (2) exemption from local Octroi duties or terminal taxes by fixing a lump sum to be paid annually.

The long distance telephone.

461. The long distance telephone-call office was opened at Baroda in the Sayaji Ganj Post Office in September 1924. There were in all 504 calls during the year. With the installation of the automatic telephone system in the city, the long distance telephone calls would show an increase.

462. With the congestion of traffic on Railways or where Railway facilities are not available, people always resort to cheap river transport. The river Narbuda has been always utilised for such purposes. With the invention of the internal combustion engine the river transportation has become very easy and economical. At one time the Baroda government did start a steam launch service between Sinor and Karnali but it did not pay then. To-day one sees half a dozen flat bottom country crafts propelled by small oil engine plying between Broach and Tilakwada carrying cotton and passengers. This has increased the importance of Karnali and Chandod which are fast becoming holiday and summer resorts for the city folks.

River and Sea Transport facilities.

The coast line of the State territory is spotted with some good seaports. As an initial measure it was thought fit to develop Beyt Harbour by providing an up-to-date pier at Adatra for berthing big steamers, thus facilitating traffic, both goods and passenger, between Karachi and Bombay, on the one hand, and the north Gujarat and the western Kathiawar, on the other. The pier has been completed and has since been opened for traffic. The question of facilities to be granted to merchants is under consideration and very soon a suitable bulletin will be issued.

The question of building a small Jetty at Mul-Dwarka near Kodinar is also engaging the attention of government so as to develop the trade and industry of Kodinar.

463. It is a well known fact that Baroda is primarily an agricultural State, and hence it is advisable to develop agriculture by means of promoting allied industries such as dairy, cattle-breeding, agriculture, horse breeding, etc.

Dairy and other subsidiary industries.

A good deal of information regarding commercial bee-hiving has been placed at the disposal of the Forest and Agriculture departments so as to enable them to demonstrate it to the cultivators.

The people in the State have realized the necessity of providing pure milk, and with that view two companies have been recently promoted ; but owing to the scarcity of grazing lands near big towns it is difficult to say how far they will be successful. The government, however, have made a good beginning by starting the Palace Dairy Farm at Makarpura. This institution has been transferred for supervision purposes to the department of Commerce from 1-7-25. The causes, however, that led to this change of control were carefully studied. The pasteurising plant has been ordered and will soon be installed. The proposals for fixing rations for the cattle in the light of recent experience and the scheme for improving the cattle in the State are under consideration.

Investigation of Industries

Co-operative investigation of Industries.

464. The Alembic Co., Ltd., of Baroda, took advantage of the departmental scheme for co-operative investigation of industries and entrusted their fermentation problem to Mr. Dotivala. The Company contributed Rs. 1,500 in all for this work.

Natural Gas at Baroda.

465. The Bhimnath boring was finally stopped, Deccan trap having been struck. The gas from the well in the Dewan compound continues to appear occasionally. An attempt was made to lease the whole of the gas-bearing region to a well-known business man of Bombay. It is now contemplated to see if it is possible to connect the bore in the Dewan's bungalow by pipes and supply gas to consumers.

Technical Scholarships.

466. Professor Shroff returned from Germany and joined his duties at the Kalabhavan where he is expected to reorganize the Industrial Chemistry department. He is also asked as soon as he finds time to survey the Dyeing, Bleaching and Printing establishments in the State and suggest improvements. Mr. Kolhatkar of the Kalabhavan has been granted a special scholarship to prosecute higher studies in Europe with special reference to bronze casting.

467. Dr. Naik continued as the Consulting Chemist of the department and supplied information on many technical points to interested parties. He proved of immense use in conducting investigations for preparing a suitable Type metal for our State Press.

Technical advice.

468. Mr. Gupte's services were utilized in restocking Oyster beds off Padli. Nearly 2 lacs of Oysters were relaid. Transplantation was not done on a large scale this year as the Oysters were not found in sufficient numbers off the east coast. All the beds were inspected with a view to examine the conditions of the Oysters relaid and to locate the spat, if occurred. Oyster beds at Balapur were examined and the Oysters relaid last year were found to be in good condition. The old beds south of Poshitra have been again auctioned for Rs. 14,500 for one year. The question of developing deep-sea fishery in Okha is now under consideration.

Okha Pearl Fishery.

Kotda creek off Kodinar Coast was inspected with a view to disclose the location of window pane Oysters there. Investigations assure us of the possible existence of the Oyster beds there and further detailed enquiries will be made next year.

469. As the suitability of some of our forest woods in manufacturing veneer and splints for matches was successfully demonstrated, a party has started a match factory at Petlad. Another application in this connection is still under consideration.

Match Industry.

470. Sheth Dorabji, who had expressed his willingness to take up fish canning at Velan after Mr. Dotivala's return from Europe, declined to develop the industry owing to the paucity and difficulty of establishing permanent fishermen at Velan. Mr. Dotivala has submitted his suggestions in this connection which are under the consideration of the Amreli Suba. If permanent fishermen can be established near Velan, it is possibie to develop a thriving fishing industry in Kodinar.

Fish canning at Velan.

471. Professor Shevade has been able to complete the economic Botanical Survey of Baroda and Amreli districts and it is hoped his report will reveal many interesting facts.

Botanical Survey.

472. From very early days Baroda has been the centre of gold and silver trade for the surrounding territory. It is estimated that nearly 2,00,000 tolas of gold and equal amount of silver have been absorbed in the Baroda district alone this year owing to the bumper cotton crop. Baroda was also at one time the centre of gold and silver thread industry much of which was used in weaving high class *sarees* and *mashru*. Even to-day nearly 50,000 tolas of gold and silver thread is used for weaving fine fabrics. With a view to supply this local demand and develop this most ancient cottage industry, efforts are being made to induce some capitalists to start gold and silver thread industry at Baroda.

Gold and silver thread industry.

Hand Loom Demonstrations.

473. Mr. T. P. Adalja continued as Weaving Assistant throughout the year. The staff of the Weaving Branch consisted besides of two Demonstrators and two Weaving teachers.

Personnel.

474. The Weaving Assistant spent 150 days in tour as against 71 last year.

Touring.

475. Demonstration of the working of the improved Fly-shuttle Pit as well as Frame looms was given at Baroda, Dabhel (Navsari Dist.) and at Dwarka and Varvala in Okhamandal.

Demonstration.

The weaving class at Amreli was closed as almost all the Vanza weavers of Amreli have adopted improved looms. It is estimated that nearly 500 improved Fly-shuttle looms are in use in the town of Amreli. This class was transferred to Okha as it was thought necessary to introduce the same sort of cottage industry there and also to improve the lot of the local weavers by introducing improved Fly-shuttle looms.

The local Dwarka weavers have left off their hereditary occupation of weaving and joined the ranks of ordinary day-labourers. The Demonstration class has aroused interest in weaving there and a number of students from the local schools including four Wagher boys from the Wagher Boarding house took advantage of the class. It is hoped that some of the Wagher boys would take to weaving.

Another class was opened at Varvala where the weavers used to adhere to old methods of weaving. They have now fully realized the advantages of the Fly-shuttle looms and some of them have decided to introduce these looms in their homes. A Weavers' Co-operative Society has been started there of which the weavers will, it is hoped, take full advantage for purchasing Fly-shuttle Pitlooms.

The weavers of Kalyanpur in Okha who mostly weave woollen Kamlis have asked for a Fly-shuttle loom with free advice of a weaving teacher at intervals and their request has been complied with.

The class at Baroda was closed and transferred to Dabhel in the Navsari district at the suggestion of the Navsari Suba. The Mahomedan weavers of this place were fully impressed with the advantage of the improved loom. Ten looms were introduced during the period the class was there and afterwards ten more looms were added. As nearly all of them have introduced Fly-shuttle looms and as they no longer stood in need of the assistance of a demonstrator the class at Dabhel was subsequently closed. Thus at the end of the year only two classes were working--- one at Dwarka and the other at Varvala in Okha.

The Weaving Assistant supervised the demonstration classes and advised and helped the weavers and factory-owners.

476. About a dozen looms were introduced through the department. In addition to this, the contractor, who supplies improved hand-looms and other weaving implements under the super vision of this department, supplied direct to the subjects of this State, 88 sleys, 50 Fly-shuttle Pit-looms,and 9 Fly-shuttle frame-looms.

Looms introduced.

The department lends as usual free help and advice to any weaver or a factory owner without any condition as to whether the looms are introduced through the department or are bought privately.

477. Experiments in wool weaving with final woollen yarn were continued at Dwarka. The hand--spinning wheels which were sent by H. H. the Maharani Saheb from Germany were demonstrated at Dwarka and they were found very useful in spinning wool. The people of Okha seem willing to take up hand-spinning of wool but there is the difficulty of getting any enterprizing merchant who would be willing to carry on this trade by supplying raw wool. Efforts are, however, being made to interest some capitalist in this trade.

Hand-spinning of wool.

478. The Weaving Assistant continued to inspect Cotton Mills in connection with the Cotton Excise duty under the supervision of the Excise department. He inspected all the Cotton Mills once every month and submitted his reports.

Cotton Excise inspection.

IV. Boiler and Factory Inspection.

479. Mr. S. M. Dighe held the office of the Inspector of Factories and Boilers throughout the year.

Personnel.

480. Boiler Inspection:—The number of private factories using steam boilers was 220 as against 209 in the preceding year, while the number of Boilers was 281 as against 263 in the previous year. Of these Boilers, 198 were in use. The following table shows the total number of Boilers on register in the last two years:—

Private Factories.

Statement of the total number of Boilers on the Register in the year 1924–25.

Year.	Number of Boilers on Register.	To be deducted.			Private Boilers.	Private Boilers.			Remarks.
		Government Boilers.	Removed or discontinued.	Total.		Working.	Idle.	Total.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1923-24...	403	10	130	140	263	190	73	263	
1924–25...	421	10	130	140	281	198	83	281	

481. The new Boiler rating on the basis of the heat surface came into force from 1-8-1924 and as would be expected the total income from inspection and transfer certificates fees has increased to Rs. 11,439-6-1 as against Rs. 7,015 in the previous year. The total expenditure on the Boiler and Factory Inspection establishment amounted to Rs. 7,011-7-2 as against Rs. 6,818-12-6 last year.

Income and expenditure.

482. There was no prosecution under the Boiler Act nor was there any Boiler explosion.

Accidents and prosecutions.

483. The number of factories, subject to control under the Act, was 137 as against 127 in the previous year; of these, 5 were entirely new as given below:—

Factories under the Act.

Name of the factory.	Situation.
1 Gin.	Astan (Dehegam).
1 Gin.	Tulsigam.
1 Gin.	Dehegam.
1 Press.	Dehegam.
1 Press.	Maroli.

484. The to number of operatives employed in the registered factories was 16,404 as against 14,981 in the preceding year and of these 14,288 were employed in cotton industry as against 12,742 in the previous year. The number of persons in factories other than those connected with cotton was 2,116 as against 2,299 in the previous year.

Operatives.

There were 3,069 women and 1,556 children at work as against 2,887 and 1,529 respectively in the last year.

A statement of wages for skilled and unskilled labour in the Baroda city is given below:—

No.	Names.	Average in 1923-24.	Average in 1924-25.
1	2	3	4
	Monthly.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
1	Manager	651- 0- 0	667- 0- 0
2	Weaving Master	600- 0- 0	492- 0- 0
3	Spinning Master	563- 0- 0	425- 0- 0
4	Engineer	275- 0- 0	375- 0- 0
5	Foreman	93- 0- 0	84- 0- 0
6	Fitter	60- 0- 0	72- 0- 0
7	Turner	51- 0- 0	56- 0- 0
8	Blacksmith	49- 0- 0	41- 0- 0
9	Carpenter	65- 0- 0	65- 0- 0
10	Mason	51- 0- 0	52- 0- 0
11	Fireman	31- 0- 0	35- 0- 0
12	Spinner	21- 0- 0	22- 0- 0
13	Weaver	47- 0- 0	46- 0- 0
14	Oilman	20- 0- 0	25- 0- 0
15	Peon	14- 0- 0	17- 0- 0
	Daily.		
16	Man	0-11- 0	0-11- 0
17	Woman	0- 9- 0	0- 9- 0
18	Child	0- 6- 0	0- 6- 0

All the perennial factories were inspected more than four times, and the seasonal once though in a few cases even twice or more.

Periodical stoppage of work and four holidays in a month according to Sec. 22 were rigorously observed.

Arrangements regarding sanitation, light, ventilation in the factories and water supply were fairly good. Schools and dispensaries have been maintained by almost all the mills.

Accidents and Prosecutions.

485. The number of accidents amounted to 62 as against 75 last year, out of which 40 were minor, 20 serious and 2 fatal. Of these, 42 as against 41 last year, occurred in the G. B. S. Railway Workshops, of which 6 were serious as against 8 last year.

There were no prosecutions for violation or infringement of the provisions of the Factory Act.

486. Despite the depression in trade and industry, the "humanising of industry" is advancing and taking various forms suitable for the workers in the State. The movement is generally needed and appreciated in the large industries; but even small factories do a good deal for employees. From all parts one hears reports of the provision of facilities for picnics, dinner, for education, not necessarily vocational in character, and for investment of savings. Much, however, remains to be done, by way of organising out-door sports among the mill hands.

Welfare work.

V. Electricity Act.

487. Mr. T. C. Muzumdar continued as Electric Inspector throughout the year. The Dabhoi Electric Supply was inspected four times, the Navsari Electric Supply thrice and the Sidhpur Electric Supply once. The Dabhoi Electric Supply began to supply energy to the public during the current year.

Inspection of Electric Installations.

488. In his inspections, the Electric Inspector found defects in the Power House, overhead lines and consumers' connections and the Agents of the Supply Companies were directed to rectify them. The total load connected up to 31st July 1925 was 2,567 K. W. as against 2,179½ in the last year.

Defects.

489. During the year, no new application under Electricity Act was received. The projects for Kadi Amreli, Petlad and Pattan are still under the consideration of private parties.

Applications under Electricity Act.

490. The draft of the revised Electricity Act is still under the consideration of the Legal Remembrancer.

Revision of the Electricity Act.

VI. Joint Stock Companies and Benevolent Societies.

A. Joint Stock Companies.

491. In the beginning of the year, there were 88 companies on the Register, while 12 new companies were registered during the year, making a total of 100 companies. Of these, 11 companies were cancelled, thus leaving 89

Number of Companies on the Register.

companies on the Register at the end of the year. Of these, 88 are public companies including one with unlimited liability, while the remaining one is private.

Classification of new companies.

492. The new companies may be classified as under:—

I.	Banking, Loan and Insurance.	
	(b) Insurance.	7
III.	Trading and Manufacturing.	
	(b) Printing, Publishing and Stationery.	2
IV.	Mills and Presses.	
	(k) Other Mills and Presses.	1
XI.	Others.	2
	Total.	12

Of these 89 companies on the Register 11 companies went into liquidation. The total number of companies under liquidation is 26.

Capital of the companies.

493. The following table gives a comparative statement of the authorized, subscribed and paid-up-capital of the companies:—

At the end of the year.	No. of Companies on the Register.	Capital (Rs.).		
		Authorized.	Subscribed.	Paid up.
1	2	3	4	5
1923–24	88	9,99,03,900	5,41,09,050	3,74,81,214
1924–25	89	9,55,28,000	4,99,69,415	3,71,68,364
Net increase or decrease during the year... ...	+1	–43,75,900	–41,39,635	–3,12,850

The apparent decrease in capital is due to the fact that many unsound and new companies that could not start business were either sent into liquidation or cancelled. 11

such companies with a paidup-capital of Rs. 10,33,820 were cancelled during the year. Yet the net decrease comes up to Rs. 3,12,850. It will be seen from these figures that paidup capital has in reality been increased by Rs. 7,20,970. This proves that inspite of the unparalleled monetary crisis the sound concerns in the State were able to collect their share capital.

Registration of Mortgages.

494. 8 mortgages to the total value of Rs. 7,00,600 were registered under section 118 of the Act during the year.

Foreign Companies.

495. There are 7 foreign companies which have their Head Offices outside Baroda and have their established places of business in the Baroda State and file documents under section 284 of the Act. Of these, the Bombay Hume pipe company, Ltd., which had their works at Karjan, went into liquidation.

Number of documents registered.

496. The total number of documents registered during the year was 357 as against 280 in the previous year.

Receipts.

497. The total receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 1,067-13-0 as against Rs. 671-13-0 in the previous year.

Prosecutions.

498. There were 11 prosecutions during the year under the Companies Act for not filing the Balance Sheets, Annual Returns of Accounts, etc., in time for registration. 6 cases were pending at the close of the previous year. Of these 17 prosecutions, in 7 cases the parties concerned were fined. One was found guilty and was warned while in two cases the judgments were in favour of the defendants. Appeals have been preferred in these two cases, while 7 cases were pending before the court at the end of the year.

During the year, two complaints regarding the defalcation of accounts were received and they were referred to the Police department for investigation and criminal prosecution,

if necessary. In one case the parties were found guilty and they were sentenced to imprisonment and fine. Enquiries regarding the other are not yet completed.

499. At the close of the last year, there were 17 permanent auditors on the register. During the year two temporary certificates were renewed.

Certified Auditors.

(*B*) *Benevolent Societies.*

500. There were 22 societies registered under the Benevolent Societies Act at the end of the previous year. 4 new societies were registered during the year. Of these 26 societies, 16 are caste institutions, 2 for the promotion of industry among women, 3 for encouragement of education and prevention of child marriages, 2 for procuring land and estate for Christian parsonages, mission premises, medical homes, etc., 2 are homes for the destitute, while one is for the protection of old and unserviceable domestic animals.

Benevolent Societies.

501. The total number of documents registered during the year was 22 as against 15 in the previous year.

Number of documents registered.

The total receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 40-0-0 as against nil in the last year.

Receipts.

502. The present Companies Act, as pointed out last year, is inadequate in many ways, and in cases, where the companies are floated for purposes of Insurance, under the present Act, the interests of the share-holders as well as of the policy-holders are not properly safe-guarded. However, as a preliminary measure, the registration fees for the Joint Stock Companies have been brought on par with those prescribed in British India and other Indian States. The new scale came into force from the 1st August 1925. It is hoped this will at least put a stop to the formation of bogus concerns. Greater vigilance is being exercised and any violation of the present Act is promptly dealt with. The

Inadequacy of the present Act.

New Insurance and Provident Societies Acts are under the consideration of the Legal, Remembrancer and when enacted into Laws, it is hoped, the interest of all concerned would be well protected.

VII. Press and Stationery.

Personnel.

503. Mr. B. T. Kale worked as Assistant Director of Commerce, Press & Stationery Branch, and also as Office Manager of the State Press and Mr. M. H. Bhatt worked as Works Manager throughout the year.

Printing done by the State Press.

504. All printing was done by the State Press for all the departments throughout the year.

Cost of work done in the Press.

505. The total cost of work done in the Press amounted to Rs. 1,17,034–4–0 as against Rs. 1,06,898-11-0 in the preceding year. The increase is due to increased work.

Cost of work done from outside presses.

506. Work done from outside presses by various departments came to about 115 forms as against 426 forms last year at a total cost of Rs. 1,869-4-0 as against Rs. 5,754-15-4 last year.

Total work done during the year.

507. 19,800½ foolscap pages were set in type. Total impressions during the year on several machines come to 13,848,022 as against 13,798,792 last year. Total books bound in various styles number 2,91,800. Minor bindings operations, viz: numbering, perforating and envelop–making amounted to 3,068,139. Total number of rubber stamps made was 108. Total number of die stamp impressions came to 29,454.

Total money in equipment.

508. Out of the sanction of Rs. 2 lacs for the equipment of the State Press, a balance of Rs. 42,351-13-8 was left on hand at the beginning of the year. Out of this amount, Rs. 16,377-1-6 were spent on type casting accessories,

Rs. 4,898–5–0 in the composing section, Rs. 6,492–13–0 in purchasing new machines and repairs to old machines and fittings, Rs. 1,606–2–2 on machines and equipments in binding section, Rs. 1,739–14–0 on equipment in stores and Rs. 696–10–0 on office equipments, leaving thereby a balance of Rs. 10,541–0–0 for further equipment.

Staff at the Press and average monthly cost.

509. With increasing work it was found expedient to increase the staff at the press to cope with the work. At present the press staff consists of 146 men as against 108 last year, main increase being in the number of compositors and binders.

The monthly wages bill for the work came to Rs. 3,040 with a supervision charge of Rs. 850 as against Rs. 2,368 for the last year with a supervision charge of Rs. 609.

Costs.

510. It is the ambition of the State Press management to work the press on purely commercial lines. With that end in view hourly rates for the various operations were calculated after carefully and properly allocating rent, light, power, insurance, warehousing, supervision charges and sundries. It is proposed to increase the current rates existing since 1894 for composing and printing at least by 50 per cent. On the basis of the present rates, the State Press is expected to show surplus over actual cost of Rs. 21,229-11-4 for the first complete year of its existence. This sum does not include rent, interest and depreciation.

The type foundry.

511. The type foundry has been actively casting types for use at the State Press and the total weight of types and type setting accessories cast comes to 242 cwts 31 lbs. Dr. Naik's experiments to eliminate or at least to minimise wastage and loss in mixing the various type-metal-alloy have been fairly successful. It is hoped to convert the foundry into a private concern after our requirements are fully satisfied.

512. With a view to curtail expenses in printing a committee under the Chairmanship of Mr. N. K. Aloni, the Accountant General, and the Director of Commerce and Mr. B. K. Bhate, the Naib Sar Suba, was formed. As a result of the recommendations of this committee, a total saving of Rs. 11,132-2-3 has been effected in the paper cost

Curtailment Committee.

513. Another important feature of the year was the amalgamation of the Railway Press with the State Press. This question was under the consideration for more than a year and in all two committees were appointed, one after another, for this purpose. The first of these, consisting of Mr. N. K. Aloni as Chairman and Mr. Rollo and Dr. Pagar as members, was appointed to scrutinise the feasibility of amalgamating two presses with a view to economy. The principle of amalgamating two presses was accepted by government and a fresh committee was appointed with the late Mr. Kotwal as Chairman and Rai Saheb Manilal and Dr. Pagar as members to suggest the lines on which the amalgamation was to be effected. The amalgamation of the two presses has been effected and the work is proceeding smoothly.

Amalgamation of the Railway Press.

514. Mr. E. E. Coombes of the Bombay Government, now of the Government of India, inspected the Press twice and was satisfied with the work done and progress maintained. A Press manual is under preparation. A Co-operative Society for the Press employees has been organized.

Mr. Coombes' inspection.

515. Paper, stationery and other contractors were given in all Rs. 31,925 as 60% advance against bills pending. No other concession was given.

Facilities to contractors.

516. This year Messrs. Trivedi Brothers secured the contract to supply the stationery to all the city offices at a discount of 28½%. Total bills for stationery articles purchased from them approximately amounted to Rs. 76,313-13-0 at original rates.

Stationery Contract.

VIII. Stores and Cleaning of Type-Writers.

Stores purchase scheme.

517. The question of Stores purchase scheme to be worked along with the State Press was referred to the Accountant General for final submission to government. A committee was formed to scrutinize the scheme and consider its feasibility. When the matter was submitted to government it was, however, referred back to this department to get information from the Government of India where a Store Purchase Scheme obtains. The motive behind the scheme is merely to get the best articles in the cheapest markets.

Type-writers and Cycles.

518. Though the Stores Purchase Scheme is yet under consideration, a little beginning has been made, with that end in view, by standardising type-writers and cycles to be used by Government departments. Under this scheme 6 cycles and 30 type-writers were bought by the various departments.

Leather and woollen articles.

519. The leather contract has been given for 15 years to a local enterprizing Mochi who manufactures and supplies the various articles to the Military and other State departments amounting to about Rs. 30,000 annually. The woollen contract has been given for 10 years to the Maharani Woollen Mills, Ltd., which supplied articles worth Rs. 20,500 approximately to the various departments. Much remains yet to be done by way of encouraging purchases of locally manufactured articles. Every effort is being made to bring the local manufacturers to the notice of the consuming departments.

Cleaning and oiling of type-writers.

520. The work of oiling and cleaning of type-writers continued under the supervision of the Workshops Superintendent of the Kalabhavan. During the year, 230 machines were oiled and cleaned and 87 were repaired as against 227 and 116 respectively for the last year. The decrease in the number of machines repaired is due to the regular cleaning of the machines.

521. During the year, 6 old machines were received from the various departments and 12 such machines were in stock. Out of these three Yost machines were completely repaired and handed over to the Commercial Class of Kalabhavan and five were repaired and kept as loan machines.

Old and condemned machines.

522. The total earnings and expenditure during the year were Rs. 3,018 and 1,634 as against Rs. 3,315 and 1,884 respectively for the last year. It will be seen from this that the net amount of profit derived from this work amounts to Rs. 1,384.

Receipts and Expenditure.

523. With the standardization of cycles it became necessary to evolve a uniform procedure for maintenance and repairs of cycles. These rules were prepared and got sanctioned by the government. The new rules came into force from 1-8-1925.

Cycles Rules.

IX. COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

524. A good number of Commercial periodicals, bulletins and catalogues, as usual, were received and kept in the reading room of the Information Bureau to which the public has free access and their suggestions are invited. More than 80 persons availed of the facilities. A catalogue of all the books in the Commerce Department Library has been prepared and will soon be published.

The Information Bureau.

525. The department, with a view to encourage the local arts and crafts, maintains a small sales depot at the Baroda Museum under the supervision of the Curator. Articles worth Rs. 213 were sold as against Rs. 845-15-0 last year. The Curator has been requested to put the articles in a prominent place so as to attract the attention of the visitors to the Museum and thus increase sales. Last year's sales were larger because of the fact that many articles had to be purchased from the depot for the Empire Exhibition.

The sales Depot.

526. The following work of Statistical nature was done:—

Publications.

(1) The twentieth issue of the Statistical Abstract of the State for the year 1922-23 was published and the same for the year 1923-24 was compiled and sent to the Press.

(2) Rail-borne Trade Statistics received from the various Railway Companies were compiled and a summary was incorporated in the Abstract.

(3) The economic surveys of Sankheda and Visnagar were published and that of Vyara is under preparation. A survey of the Cotton mills with a special reference to capital invested, production of yarn and cloth, excise duty collected, etc., is also under compilation.

State Insurance.

527. The State Insurance Rules were finally approved by the government and the rules came into force from 1-8-1925. The administration of the rules has been entrusted to the Accounts department.

Acts and Rules.

528. The New Factory Act, the Boilers Act, the Provident Societies' Act, and the electricity Act are still under the consideration of the Legal Remembrancer.

Income and expenditure.

529. Excluding the sums realised on account of the Cotton Excise Duty, and other fees and royalties, the income of this department on account of miscellaneous items and sales of the products from the Weaving demonstrations, as well as the expenditure for the last three years is as stated below :—

Items.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.
1	2	3	4
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Income	1,431	1,581	2,349
Expenditure ...	61,402	76,586	1,14,585

The increase in expenditure is due to the Empire Exhibition bills amounting to Rs. 8,408 and bills amounting to Rs. 77,415 on account of the Terminal Tax refund paid to the various mills and factories on behalf of the Baroda City Municipality. The net expenditure came to Rs. 28,762 only being Rs. 9,000 less than last year.

C. Co-operative Societies.

530. The office of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies was held by Mr. Sevaklal D. Parikh, B.A., F C.L., during the year.

Registrar.

531. There were 105 Co-operative Societies newly registered during the period raising the total of all Societies at the end of the year to 714, out of which 45 Co-operative Societies were cancelled, thus bringing the net total to 669. Three of these institutions were Central Banks, two Banking Unions, 536 Agricultural Credit, 65 Agricultural Non-credit, 60 Non-agricultural Credit, and 3 Non-agricultural Non-credit Societies. That there was a steady rise in the number of societies from year to year will easily be noticed from the Chart appended herewith.

Number of societies.

532. The total membership rose from 19,141 to 22,069 and the reserve fund from Rs. 3,94,630 to Rs. 4,57,802 and the working capital from Rs. 28,05,637 to Rs. 32,32,578 during the year. The net profits for the year were Rs. 88,259 against Rs. 78,178 in the preceding year. The deposits held by societies also rose from Rs. 16,93,496 to Rs. 19,06,434. The average membership per society was 32·9 against 31·4 in the preceding year; while the working capital per society and per member was Rs. 4,832 and Rs. 146·7 against Rs. 4,606·8 and 146·6 in the previous year. The total amount of loans advanced during the year was Rs. 19,08,834 against Rs. 15,88,453 in the preceding year. Rs. 20,65,548 were due at the end of the year against Rs. 17,57,622, of which Rs. 2,44,524 were over-due against Rs. 2,11,589 in the preceding year. The increase in the membership and financial position, i.e. deposits, reserve fund and working capital of the co-operative societies has been shown in Charts appended herewith.

Membership and financial position.

533. The Baroda Central Co-operative Bank continued to do useful work. It advanced loans to the societies affiliated to it in the Baroda district to the extent of Rs. 2,08,816 against Rs. 1,49,620 in the preceding year. At the end of the year, the deposits held by the Bank amounted to Rs. 5,04,730 against Rs. 4,35,722 in the preceding year. The new Petlad Bhadran Co-operative Bank continued to raise up its share capital by selling its shares and the shares of Rs. 10,060 were paid up during the year. The Bank also received deposits of Rs. 12,476. It advanced loans to the Co-operative Societies of the Petlad Taluka to the extent of Rs. 22,800. The Mehsana District Co-operative Bank also made good progress during the year. Its membership rose from 206 to 235. Its share capital and working capital rose from Rs. 21,302 and 71,867 to Rs. 24,982 and 92,662 respectively and reserve funds amounted to Rs. 3,793 against Rs. 3,051 in the preceding year. It financed co-operative societies to the extent of Rs. 69,567 against Rs. 47,922 in the preceding year and held deposits of Rs. 63,867 against Rs. 47,514 in the previous year.

Central Bank.

534. The Navsari Co-operative Banking Union also continued its useful activities. It financed co-operative societies to the extent of Rs. 63,175 during the year against Rs. 71,450 in the preceding year. Its membership, share capital, working capital and reserve fund rose from 108, Rs. 18,040, Rs. 1,61,787 and Rs 5,473 to 120, Rs. 20,365, Rs. 1,73,891 and Rs. 6,771 respectively during the year; also its deposits rose from Rs. 1,38,274 to Rs. 1,46,755. The Kodinar Union maintained its high standard of work and continued to evince great interest in agricultural improvements. Its membership, share capital, working capital and reserve fund rose from 46, Rs. 8,100, Rs. 1,40,478 and Rs. 13,112 to 52, Rs. 9,100, Rs. 1,59,098 and Rs. 15,660 respectively during the year. It had deposits to the extent of Rs. 1,34,338 during the year against Rs. 1,19,266 in the preceding year. The members of the societies in the

Banking Union.

Kodinar Taluka have now scarcely any need for current purposes to resort to the Sowcars for loans. Co-operation has much improved the agricultural conditions of the Kodinar Taluka.

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

535. At the end of the year, there were 601 agricultural societies in the State distributed as under which compare favourably with the figures of the last two years:—

Number of agricultural societies.

District.	1922-23.	1923-24.	1924-25.
1	2	3	4
Baroda.	248	274	276
Kadi.	86	93	111
Navsari.	69	79	94
Amreli.	91	101	120
Total...	494	547	601

I. Credit.

536. In point of number of societies as well as in general progress, the Baroda district continued to lead all other districts of the State. The number of societies rose from 222 to 243. They are financed by the Baroda Central Co-operative Bank, Petlad Bhadran Co-operative Bank and Bhadran Agricultural Bank.

Baroda district.

537. The number of societies in the Navsari district also rose from 79 to 92. The Navsari Banking Union advanced loans to most of the societies in the district and a few societies were financed by the Vyara Agricultural Bank also.

Navsari district.

538. The number of societies in the Kadi district rose from 87 to 96. The Mehsana District Co-operative Bank financed the Co-operative Societies in the Kadi district affiliated to it.

Kadi district.

539. The Amreli district recorded an increase of 19 societies bringing a total of 105, out of which Kodinar Taluka alone claimed 48. The Amreli Pedhi continued to finance the societies of the Amreli district affiliated to it except those in the Kodinar Taluka which were financed by the Kodinar Banking Union.

Amreli district.

II. Non-credit.

540. The number of societies of this class were 65 during the year against 63 in the preceding year. They comprised two milk supplying societies of Nizampura and Sayajipura, one irrigation society of Bhurakoi, 12 co-operative supply societies, 36 fodder storage societies, 12 grain storage societies, and 2 co-operative societies for the consolidation of scattered agricultural holdings. Of these 36 fodder storage societies, 19 were in the Baroda district, 12 in the Kadi district, 4 in the Amreli district and 1 in the Navsari district during the year. 1,43,000 lbs. of green grass and 58,200 lbs. of hay were stored to be utilised at the time of distress. Six grain storage societies, viz. Narsipura, Dabhasa, Mujpur, Raghavpura, Vasaipura and Lasanpur have stored 43,474 lbs. of grain against 26,102 lbs. of grain in the previous year. The two milk societies purchased 2,05,294 lbs. of milk from the members and disposed it of in the Baroda city at a profit of Rs. 1,313. One new society for consolidation of scattered agricultural holdings was organised at Sujatpur in Kadi Taluka during the year.

Number and condition of non-credit societies.

NON-AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

541. The number of non-agricultural societies rose from 57 to 63, of which 60 were credit societies. Of these, there were 17 urban societies, 33 weavers', 8 Chamars'a nd 2 Antyajas'; besides these, there were three co-operative stores.

Non-agricultural societies.

542. There were in all 17 Urban Societies working during the year. Out of these, 7 are in the Baroda city and four in the Baroda district, one at Navsari, one at Mehsana, one at Unjah and 3 at Amreli. Of the seven societies of the

Urban Banks and Societies.

Baroda city excluding the three Government Servants' societies, the progress of the Anyonya Sahkari Mandali was very satisfactory. Its membership increased from 679 to 787, the working capital from Rs. 1,78,484 to Rs. 2,01,552 and deposits from Rs. 1,48,153 to Rs. 1,52,993. The Chandrasen Kayastha Parbhu Society and Mahomedan Urban Society in the city did satisfactory work. The Vaso Co-operative Bank recorded a very healthy progress. Its membership and working capital rose from 357 and Rs. 1,63,099 to 387 and Rs. 1,84,282 respectively during the year. It advanced loans to its members to the extent of Rs. 1,11,454 during the year. The new Vaso Vidyarthi Sahayaka Sahkari Mandal and the Unjah Audich Sahastra Brahman Mandali commenced work during the year.

Government Servants' Societies.

543. Of the six Government Servants' Societies, the Judicial department society maintained its reputation for useful and progressive work. Its membership and working capital rose from 133 and Rs. 17,660 to 139 and Rs. 17,907 respectively. The Baroda Government Servants' Urban Society did not show much progress. Gaekwar's Baroda State Railways Employees' Society worked satisfactorily. Its working capital amounted to Rs. 8,125. The Government Servants' Societies at Mehsana and Amreli did little work, while the Teachers' Society of Navsari commenced its work during the year. Its working capital, deposits and share capital amounted to Rs. 8,369, Rs. 7,342 and Rs. 1,027 respectively.

Weavers' and Chamars' Societies.

544. There were 33 Weavers' Societies and 8 Chamars' Societies at the end of the year. Most of them did fairly good work. The Chamars' Societies in the Kadi district worked satisfactorily. They have continued to supply Kos (leather water bags) to their neighbouring Agricultural Societies.

Co-operative Stores.

545. The Co-operative Store at Baroda dealt in goods in general. The total sales amounted to Rs. 25,583 against Rs. 27,581 in the preceding year. The Pustakalaya Sahayak Sahakari Mandal

commenced its work during the year. Its share capital and working capital amounted to Rs. 5,325 and Rs. 20,593 respectively. Its sales amounted to Rs. 8,821.

546. The Co-operative Milk Depot at Baroda supplied during the year 1,64,509 lbs. of milk against 1,33,835 lbs. of milk in the preceding year making a profit of Rs. 239.

Milk Store.

547. His Highness' government were pleased to sanction Rs. 1,00,000 as deposit for a period of ten years at a low rate of interest to the Baroda Central Co-operative Bank for the purpose of redeeming old debts of the members of societies, as may be recommended by the Registrar. By the end of the year, Rs. 45,500 were sanctioned to be advanced to the Co-operative Societies for the redemption of old debts of their members.

Redemption of old debts.

548. Conferences of the Co-operative Societies of Kodinar, Shinore, Mangrol and Kamrej Talukas were held at Kodinar, Shinore and Kosamba respectively during the year. These conferences were highly instrumental in advancing the cause of co-operation by dissemination of its principles amongst the general public. Several important questions were discussed and resolutions passed in connection with the actual working of the societies.

Conferences.

549. Two Secretaries' Co-operative Training classes, one for the secretaries of the societies of the Kodinar Taluka and the other for the secretaries of the Kadi, Kalol, Vijapur, Atarsumba and Dehgam Talukas, were held during the year.

Secretaries' Training Classes.

550. The department, as usual, tried to obtain the assistance of the leading public men as Honourary Organisers and there were 16 such Honourary Organisers at the end of the year.

Honourary Organisers.

Agricultural Banks.

551. There were four Agricultural Banks (Pedhis) in the State as in the previous year. The following table gives a combined statement of the financial position of these Pedhis:—

Agricultural Banks.

Statement showing the financial position of Agricultural Banks.

No.	Items.	Vyara Bank.		Bhadran Bank.		Amreli Bank.		Songhad Bank.	
		1923-24.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1924-25.	1923-24.	1924-25.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
1	Nominal Capital	14,190- 0- 0	14,190- 0- 0	1,00,000- 0- 0	1,00,000- 0- 0	50,000- 0- 0	50,000- 0- 0	12,500- 0- 0	12,500- 0- 0
2	Paid up Capital—								
	(1) State	6,250- 0- 0	6,250- 0- 0	35,000- 0- 0	49,990- 0- 0	18,750- 0- 0	18,750- 0- 0	6,250- 0- 0	6,250- 0- 0
	(2) Private	7,940- 0- 0	7,940- 0- 0	49,992- 0- 0	49,992- 0- 0	13,140- 0- 0	13,627- 8- 0	4,560- 0- 0	4,560- 0- 0
3	Deposits at the end of the year ...	51,747- 7- 2	64,926-10- 6	88,005- 2- 3	99,505- 0- 6	38,973- 6- 0	34,543-10- 0	...	...
4	Reserve fund	8,388- 1- 0	8,580- 1- 0	4,621- 0- 0	5,458- 0- 0	2,033- 1- 1	2,274- 1- 1	9,985- 4- 9	10,057-13- 0
5	Surplus fund	339- 4- 1	485- 0- 8	4,126- 0- 0	4,847- 0- 0	4,028- 6- 8	4,269- 6- 8	3,865- 4- 1	2,033-11- 1
6	Net profit	1,926- 1-11	1,144-12- 4	8,770- 9-10	8,735- 4- 5	2,411- 6- 9	2,417-15- 9	725- 2- 8	549-13-11
7	Loans recovered by the Bank ...	61,058-14- 5	39,775- 0- 6	82,401- 9- 0	97,918- 10-1	20,735- 4- 3	33,282- 8- 4	3,896-15- 6	4,004- 2- 8
8	Loans outstanding at the end of the year :—								
	(1) Co-operative Societies...	24,838-10- 1	36,319- 4-10	53,304-14- 0	63,058- 1- 5	35,649- 6- 2	39,299-14- 9	...	...
	(2) Individual Khatedars ...	17,550- 9- 8	12,406-13- 0	96,509-10- 3	1,21,297- 6- 3	6,554-13- 5	6,846-12- 9	8,598- 2- 8	4,672- 6- 5
9	Loans advanced	43,692-13- 4	43,582- 6- 0	97,344- 7- 3	1,32,459- 9- 6	19,670- 0- 0	33,401- 0- 0	428- 6- 0	78- 6- 5
10	Cash and other investments	34,509-11- 4	40,850- 9- 2	45,475- 1- 3	66,552- 4- 6	37,599-11- 0	30,374-12- 4	17,155- 3-11	19,128- 3- 8

552. The Bhadran Pedhi (Agricultural Bank) was very ably managed by its energetic Manager and Directors and showed healthy progress during the year. It advanced loans to the societies as recommended by the department. It held deposits of Rs. 99,505 against Rs. 88,005 in the preceding year.

Bhadran Agricultural Bank.

553. The Amreli Pedhi continued to do fairly good work The deposits amounted to Rs. 34,544 against Rs. 38,973 in the previous year. It financed the co-operative societies of the Amreli district. The out-standing loans due from the individual Khatedars are being slowly recovered.

Amreli Agricultural Bank.

554. The Songhad Pedhi confined its activity only to the recovery of past arrears of loans.

Songhad Agricultural Bank.

555. The working of the Vyara Agricultural Bank was satisfactory. It commanded good credit and attracted deposits during the year to the extent of Rs. 64,927 against Rs. 51,747 in the previous year. It also financed co-operative societies of Vyara Taluka and several co-operative societies of the Talukas of the Navsari district in addition to the individual Khatedars.

Vyara Agricultural Bank.

556. The novel feature of the year is the successful attempt at consolidation of scattered agricultural holdings through the co-operative society of the Sokhada village, Padra Taluka of the Baroda district. This consolidation has been made with the entire consent of the members of the society by voluntary exchanges of the fields. The number of Khatedars that came under the operation of consolidation was 53, the survey numbers being 267, comprising about 780 Bighas in all. The total number of blocks of these fields before consolidation was 214, which as the result of consolidation was reduced to 149. The results achieved by this process are as noted below:—

Special features of the year.

	Average No. of blocks per each Khatedar.	Average No. of Bighas in each block.	Average No. of survey numbers in each block.
1	2	3	4
Before consolidation ...	4	3·6	1·2
After consolidation ...	2·8	5·2	1·8

It will be noticed that the average number of blocks per each Khatedar has been reduced by about 30 p.c. while the average number of Bighas in each block and the average number of survey numbers in each block have been raised by about 45 and 50 p.c. respectively, as the effect of consolidation. This has doubtless resulted in raising the economic values of lands and in enhancing their productive power, as well as in minimising the numerous inconveniences due to the former scattered condition of the fields. Another novel and note-worthy feature of the year was the experiment of storing green fodder in Katcha temporary pits by the silo system through the agency of the various fodder storage co-operative societies in the State. In all about a lac and a half lbs. of green fodder was thus siloed in Katcha pits by about twenty societies. This experiment has been highly instrumental in popularising the silo system of storing fodder amongst the agriculturists of the State.

D. Forests.

(I) Administration.

Personnel.

557. Mr. C. D. Warden continued to act as Conservator while Mr. Viranchiprasad Hariharshankar Desai helped as Assistant Conservator.

Details of the forest areas and the alteration therein.

558. The total forest area has remained unchanged at the previous figure of 7,42, 751 Bighas which in British land measure is represented by 681·8 square miles or 8·8% of the total territorial extent of the State. This percentage though

fairly high is altogether unequally distributed, the greater portion embracing no less than 551·9 square miles in only one out of the four districts, viz. Navsari.

(II) CONSTITUTION OF STATE FORESTS.

Demarcation and Settlement.

Efforts confined to maintenance of boundaries.

559. All forest reserves have been demarcated since long and efforts are now confined to maintaining the boundary marks in order and repairs where necessary.

Proposal for clearances of all standing forest growth approved by government.

560. The long pending unfinished detailed demarcation on the frontier of Sagbara State having after all been completed during the preceding year, a special sanction of Rs. 8,000 has been accorded to make broad-clearances of standing forest growth along these frontiers.

1,202 Bighas disforested in Chitpur in Nasu region.

561. 1,202 Bighas of forest lands comprised in coupes 27 to 33 in Chitpur in the Nasu forest region have been cleared and felled for being allotted to the Kaliparaj Bhil villages for tillage. This measure is calculated to be of great benefit to forest and agriculture.

(III) MANAGEMENT OF STATE FORESTS.

(i) Working Plans.

Some modifications in Vyara and Mahuwa working plans.

562. These are in operation as usual. Some modifications in Vyara and Mahuwa were, however, proposed and have now received the sanction of government. Under these proposals, the work of cutting out heavily reserved trees of unsound growth and of regenerating coppice from felled stumps is to be undertaken gradually, while at the same time thinnings of dense coppice clumps will go on in the regenerating coupes.

(ii) Communications and Buildings.

Petty repairs to forest buildings.

563. A sum of Rs. 572 was spent for tile-turning and in petty repairs to forest buildings in all the ranges.

564. The Mahal Panchayat expended Rs. 175 in repairing the Khant–Umerpada road and Rs. 125 for the Lohari frontier track.

Repairs of roads.

565. The construction of bunds or " Bundharas " for storage of water in the rivers in Umerpada Mahal requires to be taken in hand and executed. Large pastures here are of little avail in famine years owing to the lack of water facilities for cattle.

Construction of Bundharas delayed.

566. It may be noted with satisfaction that the British Government is shortly to carry out the rock blasting in the rapids at Kakrapar in the bed of the Tapti river at the suggestion of the Baroda Forest department with a view to facilitate and stimulate water transport of bamboos and timber rafts from Vajpur jungles.

Rock blasting at Kakrapar in the bed of the Tapti.

567. The buildings at Dalkhania, Karamdadi and Ghatwad in Gir where there was terrace roofing which caused complaints of perennial leakage and serious damage, have been provided with corrugated shelters over the terraces by the agency of Local Boards department during the year.

Condition of the Forest buildings.

568. The expenditure incurred on forest works in the Navsari district forests by the Panchayat is shown in the following table:—

Expenditure on forest works.

Nature of work.	Past expenditure.	Expenditure during the year.	Amount remaining to be expended.
1	2	3	4
Buildings	3,36,953	15,533	89,754
Wells	44,460	...	...
Roads	22,338	...	...
Total...	4,03,751	15,533	89,754

(iii) *Protection of Forests.*

(a) General Protection.

569. During the year 1924–25, the total number of forest offences was 88 as compared with 86 in the year before. The nature of these offences relating to thefts of timber and those pertaining to other kinds of damage is illustrated in the subjoined statement :—

Forest offences.

Year.	Injury to forests by fire.	Unauthorised fellings or removal of produce.	Unauthorised grazing.	Other offences.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6
1923–24	16	46	22	2	86
1924–25	24	53	7	4	88

There were 59 cases compounded by recovery of compensation under the Forest Act, while criminal prosecutions were instituted in 3 cases; 20 cases were pending final disposal and 6 cases remained undetected.

(b) Protection from fire.

570. The figure of total area traversed by fires has risen from 6,228 Bighas in the year 1923–24 to 29,875 Bighas during 1924–25. The general fire protection continues to be as good as before, but the total figures exhibit a great enhancement or drop according as the protecting line, embracing the eastern forests of Vajpur and Nanchal, is swept over by fires coming from over the border in Sagbara State, or remains immune by chance. Unfortunately during the year, inspite of the best endeavours, the former circumstance prevailed

Area traversed over by fires.

and resulted in no less than 25,000 Bighas of the Vajpur range falling a prey to fire that originated in Sagbara and over-stepping the frontier and other internal fire barriers became uncontrollable owing to prevalence of high winds and great heat. The absence of population within 10 miles of the border rendered the forest staff helpless to fight these extensive conflagrations with success.

Fire lines are to be clear cut to render the lines more efficient than before.

571. In order to make the existing fire lines more efficient than before, it is intended to get the frontier boundaries kept clear of all trees, by getting them felled and removed to a wide breadth of 150 feet and to execute similar clearances on some of the more prominent internal fire lines in Vajpur and Nanchal in future and to this end an allotment of Rs. 8,000 has been made for giving effect to these measures.

Expenditure incurred on fire conservancy.

572. The total expenditure on fire conservancy was Rs. 4,873 as against Rs. 5,274 in the preceding year.

(c) Protection from cattle.

Concessions for grazing.

573. The Waghers of Okhamandal Mahal who were obliged to take their cattle to graze in the Gir forests, 150 miles off their home, owing to scanty rainfall in that Mahal, were given the concession to pasture their animals free of charge; while the local villagers in Amreli were permitted to remove grass from some of the pastures on reduced fees after a supply of 7 lacs lbs. was secured for despatch by rail to Okhamandal Mahal.

(d) Protection against injury from natural causes.

Cost for cutting creepers.

574. The cutting out of large harmful climbers was carried out at a cost of Rs. 291. In some places the parasite Loranthus longifolius was similarly dealt with.

(IV) Lac Culture.

Close attention to lac culture.

575. The question of extension of lac culture received close and careful attention as usual at the hands of forest rangers and their subordinate staff.

Wages paid for culture.

576. The wages paid to villagers for lac propagation and for collection of the lac crops amounted to Rs. 7,096 while Rs. 129 were disbursed for getting Khakhar trees pruned for production of fresh branches full of vigorous sap for their inoculation in due course.

Quantity of lac garnered and price realised.

577. The total collection of lac product during the year was 948 maunds. This quantity together with 88 maunds which had remained unsold before owing to very low prices, was disposed of during the year for Rs. 16,917 at the rate of Rs. 16–5–0 per maund as against Rs. 27–5–3 the rate realised during 1923–1924. There is a slump in the market and this combined with general trade depression in the country accounts for the drop in value of this forest product.

Seed-lac supplied to Indian States.

578. It may be of interest to note that 9 maunds of seed-lac was supplied to the Indian States of Suthrampur and Mewad for culture there, and also to the Director of Agriculture, Baroda State, for experiments.

(V) Sylviculture.

(a) *Natural regeneration.*

Rainfall in the forest tracts.

579. Both natural and artificial regeneration in the valuable forests of Navsari Prant where the rainfall was normal was very encouraging and gratifying as usual. Large blanks are being filled up with seedlings self-sown, and grass and rack growth in consequence is being much reduced and killed out. The thinning operations now being undertaken in coupes which are now not less than 10 years and undergoing regeneration under coppice with standards is calculated to benefit the future crop of teak and other valuable species.

580. Weeding out of properly grown coppice shoots leaving most vigorous ones to grow freely where they come up too many on one and the same stool was undertaken more regularly and on more extensive scale than before. Thus 60 coupes that were exploited in past years were taken in hand for this purpose.

Weeding out of badly grown coppice shoots.

581. Bamboos of the valuable species of Dendrocalamus strictus are now practically dead all over the Vajpur and other adjoining forests; but a new crop of seedlings is springing up everywhere gregariously, and it will be some years before the clumps will be mature and of marketable value.

Seeding and dying down of bamboos clumps.

There are two species of bamboos found in our forests (1) Dendrocalamus strictus and (2) Bambusa arundinacea.

582. Dendrocalamus began seeding in the year 1921 which was completed in the year 1924 and died down. The former seeding of this species took place in the year 1880. This kind of bamboo is common in the southern belt of the Nanchal tract, in the Vajpur range and is found in small quantity in Vyara, Mahuwa and Sadadwel ranges.

Seeding of Dendrocalamus species.

583. Bambusa arundinacea is confined to a very small portion of the Vajpur range namely in Kherwada round and in the Kalamba forest of the Mahuwa range. This species seeded and died down in the year 1917. Fresh clumps are being found but they are not mature enough for exploitation yet.

Occurrence of seeding of Bambusa arundinacea.

(*b*) *Plantation and Cultural Operations.*

584. During the year, 410 lbs. of sandal wood seeds were imported from Salem and Bangalore, 13½ lbs. of Bamboo seeds from Pollacho and South Mangalore and 30 lbs. of Tamarix from Sindh Hyderabad. Sandal-wood seeds were

Seeds imported and sown.

distributed for sowing in several ranges and the Bamboo seeds were sown in Atarsumba range, while Tamarix were experimentally sown broadcast in the Okhamandal range to bind the loose sandy soil. A bag of 40 lbs. of Silver Oak (Grevillea robusta) arrived towards the close of the year. The Silver Oak is intended to be grown at the high elevation of Salher hills where the altitude is likely to suit this species. If the experiment is successful, it is contemplated to underplant these trees with coffee bushes just as is done in Coffee plantations in Coorg and Mysore high lands.

(*i*) *Attarsumba.*

Areas in Attarsumba with remarkable good results.

585. The forests on the bank of Watrak river in this range have now had the benefit of protection for the past eight years and great improvement is noticeable in the rapid restoration of existing species of Acacias and other varieties of trees, when formerly they were hacked about and seriously damaged by the local population. Besides regular plantations and cultural operations have, by now, extended over 683 Bighas. The species tried are Teak, Sadra, Shivan, Khair, Casuarina Sandal wood, Mahuda, Tanach, Sindh Babul, etc.

2,000 bamboo seedlings were obtained from Songadh and laid out in various localities during the year. The earlier plantations of bamboos have now formed into dense clumps 20 feet in height. The Shivan and Sandal trees thus raised have also begun to bear seeds, which shows that they are now well and permanently established with hopeful results. The total expenditure on plantations in Attarsumba range was Rs. 346.

Plantation of Spineless Cactus in Attarsumba range.

586. 500 phyloids of Spineless Cactus were brought from the forests of the Panch Mahals division to Fulji Muwada near Attarsumba for growing there. The plants grown therefrom in Fulji–Muwada are in a flourishing state.

(*ii*) *Okhamandal.*

Reboisement work in Okhamandal.

587. Almost the sole occupation of forest staff in this range is to devote its time and energy to carrying out plantations after rearing seedlings in several local nurseries and to dibble in seeds in favourable localities where there is found any natural ligneous growth though in a very stunted and hacked down condition. An outlay of Rs. 530 was incurred on these activities during the year.

Bags of seeds imported.

588. Altogether 36 bags of seeds were imported from Vyara, Mahuwa, Sankheda, Sadadwel, Songadh and Vajpur. These consisted of Teak, Sadra, Khair, Amli, Babul, Limda, etc. 2,000 rhyzome pieces of Dendrocalamus bamboos were also imported from Vajpur while seeds of Casuarina came from Shriharikota range on the east coast of Madras in the Nellore district and of Tamarix from Hyderabad in Sindh.

Good results in plantation work.

589. Horse-shoe-shaped openings were made in the Kantala or Euphorbia bushes which are abundant in Okhamandal and seeds were dibbled in such openings, while 1,500 branch cuttings of Wad (Ficus bengalensis) and Pipal (Ficus religiosa) were laid out in different localities with a fair measure of success. In the plantations of earlier years at Beyt, Arahmda, Samlaser, Dwarka and Gorinja, the plants are reported to have grown from 2 to 5 feet in height. Everything achieved so far goes to show that with very patient and persistent efforts, the bare denuded hillocks and lands in Okhamandal will again be re-stocked with vegetation to the great benefit of agriculture, it being within living memory that this Mahal was densely wooded before the Wagher rising in 1850.

Cheir allowed at a low rate to feed cattle.

590. It may not be out of place to note that owing to drought and scarcity of fodder in the locality, the people were allowed to take away in head-loads Cheir leaves to feed their cattle at a low rate. Thus 5,000 head-loads of Cheir leaves were removed.

VI Exploitations.

(*i*) *Major Forest Produce.*

(a) Clear Fellings.

Clearing of trees in areas set apart for cultivation.

591. The Kheti-Blocks which were cleared of tree-growth of saleable kinds with the prices realised for them are mentioned in the following table. These include 1,202 Bighas of reserved forest lands at Chitpur in Songdh comprised within forest coupes Nos. 27 to 33 which have been cut over for being given out to local Gamtada and Vasawa Bhills for tillage, the lands in the vicinity being insufficient for cultivation, for their requirements at present.

Year.	Range.	Locality.	Area cleared in Bighas.	Price realised.
1	2	3	4	5
				Rs.
1924–25....	Vankal	Panch–amba	2,400	5,151
	Vajpur	Limbi–pipal	951	1,851
	Mahuwa	Chitpur	1,202	28,561
Total 1924–25	...	...	4,553	35,563
1923–24	Vajpur	Kherwada	2,880	10,446
	Vankal	Khodamba		

(b) Improvement Fellings.

Improvement Felling done only in the Nanchal forest.

592. Fellings under this head undertaken in Nanchal as per sanctioned working plans are illustrated in the following statement:—

Range.	Locality.	Area in Bighas.	Price. Rs.
1	2	3	4
Vankal	Bardi	1,741	8,501
	Chawda	2,918	12,161
	Total	4,659	20,662

(c) Fellings under Coppice-with-standards System.

Coppice-with-standards forms the common principal system.

593. Fellings under this class which is the principal system in vogue under a rotation of 40 years were carried out as usual.

(d) Unregulated Fellings.

Hutting material given to the people.

594. Hutting material given to the Kaliparaj people of the aggregate value of Rs. 31,659 may be mentioned under this head. Last year the value of the produce thus given free under the Free Grant Rule (Chhaparia–Kat–Niyam) was Rs. 21,979. In addition, dead bamboos of the value of Rs. 16,531 at specially reduced rates were sold to the public for extraction on permits.

(ii) *Minor Produce.*

Description.	Year 1924–25.	Year 1923–24.
	Rs.	Rs.
Lac	16,917	25,797
Asintra	4,881	2,853
Timru	1,735	1,664
Mahuda flowers and fruits	1,416	2,708
Bamboo	17,816	30,478
Rosha	360	416

Drop in the bamboo revenue and its reasons.

595. There has been a heavy drop in revenue from bamboos owing to the clumps having died down now all over the forests, as a natural periodical phenomenon. It will be some years before the new crop that has risen from self-sown seeds will be ripe for fellings and till then the loss of revenue from this head will be unavoidable,

596 Owing to paucity of rainfall in Okhamandal, seven lac lbs. of grass was cut, pressed and railed to Dwarka from the jungles. The work was carried out by the agency of a contractor and actually cost Rs. 7,262-8-0 or at the rate of Rs. 10-6-0 per 1,000 lbs. delivered at Dhari Railway station. In view of the frequency of the scarcity years in Okhamandal and constant demand for grass from Gir, the Conservator has already submitted his proposal before government that grass storing should be as well carried out at Dhari for Okhamandal as it is already done at Vyara for the Baroda Prant.

Supply of grass from Gir jungles.

597. With a view to give some relief to the local people on account of scanty rainfall the rates of grazing fees were also appreciably reduced.

Reduction in rates of grazing fees.

598. The grass of the Sarshia Bids in Gir that could be spared after satisfying the wants of Okhamandal Mahal was later on given away at the low scheduled rates to the local cultivators who get a further supply from other Bids that were specially reserved for them.

Supply of grass from Sarshia Bids

599. The land assessment collected was Rs. 8,897 against Rs. 14,540 in the preceding year. The revenue administration of all the 32 villages of the Vyara Taluka and only 2 out of 179 of Songadh, was handed back to the Revenue department.

Collection of land assessment.

600. With the influx of villagers who come from across the borders to settle in our limits in Nanchal, Vajpur and Songadh regions, the expansion of cultivation continues.

Gradual influx of population in forest tracts.

601. It may be noted here that under the recently enacted Act regarding restriction on alienation of land by Kaliparaj, lands aggregating to 691 Bighas in Songadh were given outright for cultivation to the Kaliparaj people without holding any auction sale, on acceptance of small sums.

Lands given to the Kali-paraj race under the restricted land tenure for their benefit.

(VII) Financial Results.

602. The financial results were satisfactory. The total revenue came to Rs. 5,96,704. This amount includes, as usual, the sum of Rs. 45,411 received as local cess. The revenue and expenditure of the year compared with those of the previous five years are as follows :—

Total revenue.

Year.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Surplus.
1	2	3	4
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1924-25	5,96,704	1,28,213	4,68,491
1923-24	4,61,485	1,30,580	3,30,905
1922-23	4,96,008	1,24,132	3,71,876
1921-22	4,64,256	1,29,252	3,35,004
1920-21	3,78,986	1,22,235	2,56,751
1919-20	4,50,526	1,04,821	3,45,705

603. It is gratifying to note that all the heads under revenue excepting those of bamboos and land assessment show an appreciable rise, while those under expenditure show a marked decrease. The fall in Bamboos was inevitable.

All the heads under revenue show rise.

The gross revenue increased by Rs. 1,35,219, the surplus by Rs. 1,37,586, and the expenditure decreased by Rs. 2,367.

CHAPTER VII.

PUBLIC WORKS.

A. Public Works Branch.

(a) ORGANIZATION, PERSONNEL AND IMPORTANT FUNCTIONS.

Personnel.

604. During the official year Mr. V. R. Talvalkar, A.R.I.B.A. (London), continued as Chief Engineer and controlled the administrative and executive work of the department. Mr. N. L. Mehta, B.Sc. (London), continued as Superintending Engineer till 30-3-1925 whereafter Mr. V. R. Talvalkar had to do combined duties of the Chief Engineer and the Superintending Engineer till the end of the year. He had also to perform duties of the State Architect.

Organization.

605. There were seven Executive divisions under the control of the Chief Engineer as in the previous year, viz. (1) City division, (2) Palace division, (3) Garden division, (4) Baroda division, (5) Kadi division, (6) Navsari division and (7) Amreli division. The Works Branch continued as an independent sub-division in charge of Mr. R. W. Watson till 6-5-1925 when he retired; since then it has been attached to the Palace Division. Mr. Watson performed the combined duties of the Works Branch Superintendent and Executive Engineer, Palace division, till 6-5-1925 prior to retirement. Mr. J. A. Nazerath looked after both the duties of the City Executive Engineer and Palace Executive Engineer for the remaining period of the year.

606. Local Board works were managed independently by the four District Local Boards through their own staff of Engineers as in the previous year.

Local Boards.

607. The Public Works department rendered help in preparing estimates and undertaking works of repairs to temples and buildings of the Dewasthan branch.

Dewasthan works.

608. Mr. Ganpatsing continued to work as Deputy Architect.

Duties of the State Architect.

609. Mr. C. M. Patel had the combined charge of the duties of the Mechanical and Boring Engineer throughout the year.

Mechanical Staff.

610. The following Engineers held charge of the seven divisions:—

Divisional Engineers.

(1)	Palace Division,	R. W. Watson, and J. A. Nazerath
(2)	City Division,	J. A. Nazerath.
(3)	Kadi Division,	L. D. Gaekwad.
(4)	Baroda Division,	V. K. Kunte.
(5)	Navsari Division,	D. P. Chakravarti and G. D. Parekh.
(6)	Amreli Division,	M. R. Patel.
(7)	Garden Division,	T. R. Kothawalla.

611. Expenditure on proper P. W. D. establishment amounted to Rs. 3,13,951 in the year against Rs. 3,05,980 incurred in the previous year. These figures are exclusive of expenditure on Local Board establishment. A monetary limit was fixed for each divisional office on the travelling expenses to be incurred during the year. The expenditure on travelling allowance amounted to Rs. 31,036 during the year against Rs. 30,912 in the previous year.

Expenditure on establishment.

612. The Chief Engineer continued to be the Chairman of the Kalabhavan Advisory Committee during the year and also a member of the Railway Beyt Harbour Board and Railway Harajee Committee. Besides this, the Chief Engineer presided over meetings of the Dharamshalla Committee.

Chairman, Kalabhavan Committee and Member of Beyt Harbour Board and Railway Harajee Committee.

613. Mr G. Wittet, F R.I B.A., Architect, Bombay, was invited to visit Navsari for selecting site for His Highness' residential mansion proposed to be built there. His report was received and submitted to government for approval of the site. Besides, Mr. Mehta's schemes fcr augmenting water supply of the city of Baroda were referred for expert opinion to Sir Vishweshwar Aiya, from whom a report is awaited. Mr. Coyle continued to render professional advice occasionally in connection with the Aldworth and Rusell properties in England.

Professional advice.

614. The scheme of Pattan drainage prepared by Mr. N. L. Mehta was sent to Mr. A. P. Maddock, Sanitary Engineer, Bombay Government, for his expert advice. His report is awaited.

Pattan drainage scheme sent for expert advice.

615. Boring operations were conducted in Kadi district where there was great scarcity of good drinking water. At Chanasma, Manund Road, Kamboi and Kalol, boring pipes were driven upto a depth varying from 125 ft. to 350 ft. The works are in progress and every effort is made to tap good and potable water.

Boring operations in Kadi division.

616. The City Improvement Trust was closed during the year as most of its schemes were carried out. The work of City Drainage with all its appertenances, except maintenance, formerly belonging to the Improvement Trust, was transferred to the Public Works department under the control of the City Executive Engineer from 1-12-1924. The building of the City Improvement Trust office and other residential quarters belonging to it were ordered to be maintained by the City Executive Engineer.

Transfer of City Drainage works to City Executive Engineer.

617. The following important functions took place at Pattan during the year:—

Unveiling of bust of Sheth Kilachand and opening ceremony of General Hospital at Patan.

(1) Unveiling ceremony of the bust of Sheth Kilachand Deochand, (2) laying the corner stone of the Boarding House at Pattan, and (3) the opening ceremony of the Pattan General Hospital were performed by the Minister, during the year. Similarly Lady Dhanwanta Mehta unveiled the bust of Her Highness the Maharani Saheb presented by Sheth Kilachand Deochand and placed at the Maternity Hospital at Pattan.

618. During the year, Mr. M. R. Patel, Assistant Engineer, Amreli division, and Mr. G. D. Parekh Assistant Engineer, Navsari division, were deputed to visit some of the Irrigation, Water and Drainage works in the Punjab thereby giving them an opportunity to study important construction works.

Messrs. M. R. Patel and G. D. Parekh were deputed to visit large irrigation works in Punjab.

619. Shrimant Pratapsinh Rao Raje visited Dwarka, Kodinar and Dhari in April 1925. Necessary arrangements for his comfort and convenience were made by the Public Works department.

Prince Pratapsingh Raje's visit to Amreli district.

(b) Buildings & Roads.

620. The following are some of the important original works that were either completed or in progress during the year in the several divisions :—

Important original works completed and in progress.

City Division.

Works completed—

1. Additions and alterations to the out-patient block in the State General Hospital.
2. Constructing a portion of the Chhatri building on the Kedareshwar grounds.
3. Constructing a new temple for Bolai Mata at Madan Zampa.
4. Additions and alterations to the Kothar Chowk in Sarkarwada.
5. Store rooms for the Press building.

Works in progress—

1. Electric Lift for the Press building.
2. Additional floor for the Record rooms in the Bhaddar building.
3. Additions to Record blocks.
4. Constructing a new line in the 2nd Regiment.
5. Overhauling the line No. 7 in the 2nd Regiment.
6. Infirmary for aged poor near the Lunatic Asylum.

Palace Division.

Works completed—

1. Additions of Baths, etc., in the Motibag Bungalow.
2. Making new drainage connections in Makarpura Palace.
3. Oil-painting, French polishing, &c., decoration in Laxmi Vilas Palace.
4. Making sanitary water supply 6″ Sewer and rain water drainage and soakage cesspool at Shankerbag Mansion.
5. Removing old rotten joists and replacing with new ones in three bays rooms No. 42 and 43 with providing new M. T. wood beam in place of old rotten one in old Palace at Makerpura.
6. Making and fixing dado and wall panelling in study room of Her Highness in the Laxmi Vilas Palace.
7. Providing and fixing sanitary fittings, hot and cold water connections with drainage connections in Her Highness' new bed room in the Laxmi Vilas Palace.

Works in progress—

1. Completing Shankerbag Mansion upto 1st floor.
2. Constructing out-houses, stables, carriage and motor shed at Shankerbag Mansion.
3. South portion bed room extension in the Laxmi Vilas Palace.
4. Making roof and other repairs in Shri Vithal Mandir and its Nagarkhana near Mandvi building.
5. Making sanitary hot and cold water arrangements in the Dunsewerick property at Mussoorie.
6. Thorough repairs to Delhi Pavilion in Public Park.
7. Making roof over Shree Sayaji Library building including remaking of the two rooms on the terrace.
8. Additions and alterations to Kunj bungalow occupied by Shrimant Dhairyashilrao.

9. Thorough repairs to Chittakhana A. near Warashia for making accommodation for Chittas (Leopards).

Baroda Division.

Works completed :—

1. Sinor Police Line.
2. Special repairs to the Munsiff court at Dabhoi.
3. Special repairs to the Mahalkari Kutchery at Tilakwada.

Works in progress :—

1. Sojitra Police Line.
2. Dharmaj High School.
3. Padra High School.
4. Third class dispensary at Dharmaj.
5. 4″ pipe boring in the well of the Jubilee Boarding House at Petlad.
6. Additions and alterations to the Marathi School at Petlad.

Kadi Division.

Works completed:—

1. Dispensary at Pansar.
2. Additions and alterations to the Vahivatdar Kutchery at Dehgam.
3. Repairs to the Vernacular School at Sidhpur.
4. Lavatory at the Vernacular School at Dehgam.
5. Do. do. A. V. School at Kheralu.
6. Do. Do. Vernacular School at Kalol.
7. Special repairs to the Vernacular School at Kalol.
8. Repairs to the road from Vahivatdar Kutchery to Visnagari gate at Mehsana.
9. Repairs to the road from Nalla near Dharamshalla to Vahivatdar Kutchery at Mehsana.

Works in progress :—

1. Water Works at Mehsana.
2. General Hospital at Pattan.
3. Construction of engine shed and pipe laying work for Mehsana Water Works.
4. Boarding House at Pattan.
5. Dispensary at Langhnaj.
6. Kindergarten School at Pattan.
7. Quarters for Mahalkari at Attersumba.

8. Compound round the Boarding House at Mehsana.
9. Repairs to the Yeoteshwar Mahadev Dharamshala at Kadi.
10. Constructing Sepoys' room at the Karkoon Chawl at Kalol.

Navsari Division.

Works completed :—

1. Constructing a forest post at Salher.
2. Boy Scout Head Quarters at Navsari.
3. Out-houses and Store rooms in the Model Farm at Songadh.

Works in progress :—

1. Police Thana at Salher.
2. Electric fittings at Dhadaka bungalow.
3. Quarters for round-guards and rangers at Songadh.
4. Thorough repairs to Navsari, Vesma, Palsana, Chalthan road.
5. Chalthan-Sabargam road.
6. Constructing a road from Mahuwa to Nihali.
7. Mahuwa-Tarasadi Road.
8. Constructing a Dhamdachha-Kachholi road.
9. Constructing a road from Nanai Sarahi to Kutadia Bunder.
10. Constructing a Boarding House at Kathore.
11. Additions and alterations in Navsari Distillery.
12. Constructing a 4th class dispensary at Kholwad.
13. Constructing a bridge on Mindhola river.

Amreli Division.

Works completed :—

1. Pulling down the two dilapidated blocks of the Dhari Battalion lines at Amreli and constructing two new ones there.
2. Special repairs to the Vahivatdar Kutchery at Amreli.
3. Special repairs to the Vahivatdar Kutchery at Dhari.
4. Special repairs to the new Public Office at Amreli.
5. Constructing a new building for Nirali Pati at Bhimcutta.
6. Special repairs to the Dhari Battalion lines at Kodinar.
7. Additions and alterations to the stables of Mulki Swar line at Dwarka Head-quarters of Police department.
8. Special repairs to the Okha Battalion lines at Dwarka.

Works in progress :—

1. Pulling down the dilapidated block of Dhari Battalion lines at Amreli and constructing two new blocks.

2. Reconstructing the Sharda Math at Dwarka.
3. Additions and alterations to the Okha Battalion family lines at Dwarka.
4. Stone paving in Dwarkadhish temple at Dwarka.
5. Special repairs to the Travellers, Bungalow at Dhari.
6. Special repairs to the Dhari Battalion lines at Dhari.
7. Making field drainage channel for Alidar, Jithala and Bodwa water logged lands in Kodinar Taluka.

(c) THE STATE GARDENS.

Maintenance of L.V., Nazerbag and other gardens.

621. The Makarpura, Laxmivilas, Nazerbag, Indumati and other gardens round the Khangi buildings were maintained as usual.

Maintenance of Public Park.

622. The Public Park suffered considerably on account of drought. A new well was constructed and an oil engine and pump fixed thereon.

Menagerie, Museum and Picture Gallery.

623. The Menagerie, the Museum and the Picture Gallery attracted sight-seers as usual.

(d) QUARRIES.

Royalty realised on Motipura and Bhulwan Quarries.

624. Motipura marble and Bhulwan quarries remained with Mr. Bhuderbhai Pragji on lease. Royalty realised was Rs. 800. No quarrying was in operation as Mr. Bhuderbhai could not find customers.

(e) ARCHÆOLOGICAL WORKS.

Archæological survey works.

625. The Chief Engineer, who acted as State Architect, considered schemes for restoration of archæological remains in the State. Archæological monuments in Kadi district are being restored on lines settled by government. A comprehensive scheme for restoration of archæological remains is under contemplation and definite proposals will be submitted.

(f) IRRIGATION.

626. The total outlay on Irrigation and Water Works was Rs. 65,45,908, the expenditure on maintenance of these works during the year being Rs. 35,450.

Total outlay on Irrigation and Water Works.

627. During the year, 15 888 Bighas of land were irrigated and Rs. 46,389 were derived as revenue in addition to other dues in the shape of Himayat charges. Rs. 2,230 were collected by replenishing the village tanks from surplus water of the Wadhwana tank. The total income from irrigation tanks was Rs. 48,619.

Income derived from Irrigation tanks.

628. The following irrigation works were either completed or remained in progress as subsidiary works to those already undertaken before.

Irrigation works completed or in progress.

Baroda Division.

Works in progress :—

1. Urgent repairs to the Jojwa Dam.
2. Distributories and Crosswells for the Wadhwana tank.
3. Preliminary Survey of gauging station in Baroda district.

(g) WATER WORKS.

629. The control over the maintenance of Water works and distribution of water in Baroda city within the Municipal limits continued with the City Municipality. The Public Works department continued to maintain supervision over the head-works at Ajwa, the filter beds at Nimetta and main pipe line upto Municipal limits in the city. As there was scanty rain in the monsoon of 1924, the water level of the Ajwa lake at the beginning of October was 201·80 while the level of water in the preceding year was 203·50. Special efforts had, therefore, to be made to minimise the daily consumption of Ajwa water.

Maintenance of head-works at Ajwa and filter beds at Nimetta.

630. The Ajwa and Nimetta works were maintained at a cost of Rs. 29,591 by the City division out of Municipal contribution. Samples of water from the Nimetta filter beds were examined and analysed by the Chemical Analyser and the State Bacteriologist at intervals. The quality of water continued to be good.

Analysis of Ajwa water by the Chemical Analyser and the State Bacteriologist.

631. The workshop in the Pipe Testing Yard continued to do the repairs to water meters, sluice valves and other water fittings in a satisfactory manner.

Workshop in Pipe Testing Yard.

632. The Water works at Sinore, Sankheda, Sojitra and Pattan were looked after and maintained at the cost of the respective Municipalities. The Bhadran and Kathor Water works continued to be maintained by Bhadran and Kathore Vishistha Panchayats.

Maintenance of Water Works in the district.

633. Arrangements are being made to hand over Sojitra Water works to the Panchayat.

Arrangements made to hand over Sojitra Water works to Vishistha Panchayat.

634. Water works at Songadh and Vyara in Navsari district are completed.

Water works at Songadh and Vyara completed.

635. Revenue derived from sources other than Irrigation, such as proceeds from grass, trees, rents and sale of old materials, &c., amounted to Rs 3,07,916 during the year.

Revenue derived from sources other than Irrigation.

(h) GRANTS AND OUTLAY.

636. The budget allotment for Public Works proper for the year was Rs. 26,06,170. The following table shows the amounts spent by several divisions against this sum. The District Local Boards were provided with funds out of Public Works department budget for transferred works.

Budget allotment and expenditure in the divisions.

Serial No.	Divisions.	Expenditure.	
		1923-24.	1924-25.
1	2	3	4
1	Baroda City Division ...	5,77,768	5,30,329
2	Palace Division	2,78,237	6,52,941
3	Garden Division	1,52,007	1,23,024
4	Baroda Division	1,52,888	1,69,674
5	Kadi Division	2,11,566	2,21,418
6	Navsari Division	3,65,948	2,92,991
7	Amreli Division	1,54,337	2,17,528
8	Reproductive works in four divisions	55,562	33,625
9	Works transferred to Local Boards	4,09,118	3,85,178
	Total...	23,57,427	26,26,708

I. Allotments:—

(A) Allotment to Public Works proper. Rs. 26,06,170

(B) Contribution from various departments ... ... Rs 2,63,500

(C) For tile-turning expenditure not debited to Public Works ... Rs. 48,000

Total... Rs. 28,42,770

II. Amounts transferred:—

(A) Amounts transferred to the Revenue department for compensation and for wells ... Rs. 75,000

(B) Amounts deposited with the Railway department under suspense head ... ... Rs. 45,056

Total... Rs. 1,20,056

III. Net allotment at the disposal of the Public Works department ... ... Rs. 24,86,114

IV. The total expenditure incurred was as under:—

(1) Works proper, including adjustment ... ... Rs. 26,26,708

Note:—The total expenditure of Rs. 26,26,708, includes adjustments, amounting to Rs. 3,75,701 made during the year for which there was budget provision during previous year. Thus the net expenditure against Public Works budget provision proper was Rs. 22,51,007.

(2) For contribution works ... Rs. 2,63,022

Total... Rs. 28,89,730

The following table shows comparison between the expenditure incurred by the department in the year and that during the previous year on different heads:—

Serial No.	Heads.	Expenditure. 1923-24.	Expenditure. 1924-25.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4	5
1	Original	8,31,355	13,10,733	
2	Repairs	6,08,758	8,00,899	
3	Establishment	*3,05,980	3,56,111	*Rs. 3,05,980 for 1923-24 are for establishment without Local Boards. Similar figure for 1924-25 is Rs. 3,13,951.
4	Tools and Plant	61,180	19,491	
5	Refund of Revenue	40,387	6,762	
6	Petty Military Public Works.	12,969	10,071	
7	Irrigation	30,173	35,320	
8	Extraordinary	1,945	53,298	
9	Reproductive works	55,562	33,625	
10	Miscellaneous...	...	398	
11	Works transferred to Local Boards	4,09,118	...	
	Total ...	23,57,427	26,26,708	

B. Railways.

637. The direction of the Railway department was with Mr. A. T. Houldcroft, M. I. L. E., Manager and Mechanical Engineer-in-Chief, throughout the year with Mr. L. P. Misra, I.S.E., as Deputy Manager and Engineer-in-Chief.

Direction.

(a) CONSTRUCTION, LINES ETC.

638 During the year, there were three major works in progress under the Engineering department.

Works in progress.

(a) *Adatra Harbour Works:*—The total work done during the year amounted to Rs. 9,90,882 against Rs. 8,36,482 ending 1923-24; the total expenditure to the end of this year working out to Rs 18,27,364. Excepting the bulk of the piles and some cylinders in the approach which had been driven in the previous year, the whole pier was completed and was opened to traffic after the rains.

(b) *Kalamba-Jheria Railway Extension—Narrow Gauge.*—Length 2·43 miles. Expenditure on this work amounted to Rs. 2,50,818 during this year against Rs. 1,43,449 previous expenditure. The important bridge over the Ambika river-12 spans of 40 ft. each—was commenced in March and completed by the end of July 1925 for track laying.

(c) *Mindhola Bridge.*—Progress on this work was delayed by an unexpected flood on 25-5-25 which carried away the temporary staging put up for the erection of girders of central span. The work of erection of the last span of girder has, therefore, to be postponed till after the rains; it was handed over to P. W. department about the end of November 1925. Expenditure over this work during the year amounted to Rs 69,067 against Rs. 90,088 during the previous year, the total expenditure to the end of 1924-25 amounted to Rs. 1,59,155.

NEW SURVEYS.

The following new projects were investigated, surveyed and estimated for:—

(a) *Extension of Bilimora-Kalamba Railway from Jheria to Waghai*:—Length 2·115 miles.

Several alternative alignments were surveyed and detailed plans and estimates submitted for sanction. Further endeavours are being made to reduce the cost of the proposed extension.

(b) *Zankhvav-Umerpada Extension*:—Length about 14 miles. The country through which this extension is to pass is difficult. All methods of transport suitable for such requirements were studied and detailed cost of Aerial Ropeway, Road Rail Traction, N. G. Railway and metalled road worked out and are under consideration.

(c) *Extension of Bilimora-Kalamba-Jheria Railway to Billimora Jetty*:—Narrow gauge-length 1·5 miles. This extension was re-surveyed and realigned and the cost brought down from Rs. 4,25,920 as previously estimated in 1918 to Rs. 1,60,460. The project is under consideration of His Highness' Government.

(d) *Vijapur-Ambaliasan Railway-Metre Gauge*:—Length about 27 miles.

Traffic survey of this extension has been made and Engineering Survey will be carried out as soon as the required staff is available.

(e) *Remodelling Dabhoi Yard*:—

Dabhoi is the centre of the whole of the Dabhoi Railway group and has rapidly grown. Three alternative schemes of remodelling the yard have been prepared and are under full investigation.

OPEN LINES.

Open lines and their earnings.

639. The open line mileage worked and managed by Railway administration was the same as last year, viz. 341·956 narrow gauge. To this was added a length of 2 miles of broad gauge owing to the opening of the broad gauge

siding from Vishwamitri to Goyagate for goods traffic from 1-10-24. Following are the figures of traffic earnings on the narrow gauge system during the year ending March 1925 :—

Year.	Gross Earnings.	Working Expenses.	Net Earnings.
1923-24	24,27,019	17,82,694	6,44,325
1924-25	26,62,276	19,14,853	7,47,423

640. During the year, capital works aggregating to Rs. 19,57,003 were carried out, the total expenditure including the suspense balance to the end of July 1924 being Rs. 2,57,92,024.

Capital works on open lines.

(b) ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT.

641. Mr. L. P. Misra, I. S. E. continued as Deputy Manager and Engineer-in-Chief in charge of this department. Mr. D. B. Shukla, Executive Engineer, held executive charge of the open lines with Mr. R. C. Desai in charge of Bilimora-Kalamba-Jheria Extension and two Assistant Engineers.

Personnel.

642. The track maintenance required an expenditure of Rs. 4,56,625 against Rs. 4,53,563 for the last year.

Track maintenance.

Proposals for providing sufficient ballast, based on the requirements of traffic, both present and prospective, have been drawn out and are under consideration.

The renewal of rails-in view of the large expenditure involved-requires very thorough consideration. Some of the rails in the track have been under traffic for over 45 years and have been worn out to about 27 lbs. per yard. Their replacement is under careful investigation and in the course of the next year definite proposals will be matured in collaboration with Consulting Engineers.

The lines were inspected by the Senior Government Inspector between December 1924 and March 1925 and his suggestions have been attended to.

Breaches.

643. Due to heavy rain on 6-6-25, the railway bank between miles 7/3 and 7/4 and at 9/3 on the Kosamba-Zankhvav Railway was breached. Traffic had to be consequently transhipped for 2 days. Breaches were repaired and through communication restored on 9-6-25.

(c) TRAFFIC DEPARTMENT.

Personnel.

644. Rai Saheb Manilal D. continued as Traffic Superintendent with Mr. A. J. Viyar as District Traffic Superintendent upto 28-2-25. Shrimant Lalsinh Rao Gaekwad worked as Assistant Traffic Superintendent throughout the year.

Station staff.

645. During the year, the number of lower subordinates on the rolls was 239 and menials 303. The conduct of the staff was satisfactory.

Telegraph Class

646. 10 candidates were trained in the Telegraph class during the year. Nine out of these have passed.

Accidents.

647. There were in all 292 accidents during the year due to various causes against 80 last year, most of them being ordinary except those wherein 7 persons and 24 animals were run over.

Train services.

648. The timings of trains were revised as found necessary to cope with the heavy traffic offering from 1–4–25. The normal running was introduced from 1-7-25.

Traffic.

649. The traffic during busy season this year was very heavy; cotton traffic was a record as the following figures reveal:—

Year.	F. P. Bales.	H. P. Bales.	Kappas Wagons.
1924	87,785	3,666	...
1925	1,36,657	22,841	1,417

This traffic earned about Rs. 1,96,000 during the year on account of freight.

Timber and rafter traffic was also heavy this year as compared with the last:—

Year.	Timber No. of bogies used.	Rafters No. of bogies used.
1923-24	795	1,398
1924-25	897	1,417

The other traffic was normal.

Restrictions.

650. Restrictions imposed by the B. B. & C. I. Railway on goods in bulk via Bilimora and Kosamba have since been removed except (1) on grass via Bilimora which is restricted to 4 bogies a day owing to limited ware-house accommodation in Bombay and (2) on timber via Kosamba to 4 bogies a day owing to limited tranship accommodation at Kosamba. The latter will, however, shortly be removed as the yard at Kosamba is altered. There is no restriction now via any other junction.

B. G. siding traffic.

651. The following number of wagons were transhipped after the opening of the broad gauge siding between 1-10-24 and 31-7-25 as compared with the corresponding period last year when the transhipment was with the B. B. & C. I. Railway at Vishwamitri.

		B. G.	N. G.	
At Vishwamitri.	1-10-23 to 31-7-24	3,154	3,695	10 months.
,, Goyagate	1-10-24 to 31-7-25	4,543	5,477	

Transhipment at junctions.

652. The following number of wagons were transhipped at different junctions during the year:—

	B. G.	N. G.
Bilimora	156	4,913
Kosamba	704	3,230
Miyagam	4,183	4,912

	G. B.	N. G.	
Goyagate...	... 1,543	5,477	(10 months only).
Samlaya ...	... 1,393	157	
Timba Road. ...	101	17	
Petlad ...	... 1,247	2,087	

653. The figures of freight ton miles this year as compared with those of the last year are as under :—

Traffic Earnings.

Year.	Freight ton miles.	Coaching Earnings. Rs.	Goods Earnings. Rs.
1923-24	1,05,08,300	15,10,569	9,90,351
1924-25	1,15,82,203	17,71,497	10,30,477

654. Expenditure for working the Traffic department for the year was Rs. 3,46,933 against Rs. 3,33,908 for the last year. The increase was due to increased traffic.

Working Expenditure.

655. One flag station of Latipura was newly opened on 1-7-25. This makes the total number of stations on the line 99 against 98 last year, out of which 23 are flag stations. No station was closed during the year.

Opening and closing of stations.

656. Fairs were held at Unai and Chandod on 9-5-25 to 13-5-25, the number of passengers being 12,858 and 20,000 respectively. The number of special trains run during the year was 16 for the public.

Fairs and Specials.

657. The following rule books were compiled, printed and issued during the year :—

Rule Books.

1. General and Subsidiary Rules.
2. Goods and Coaching Tariffs.
3. Traffic Manual.
4. Traffic Working Instructions.

658. Special alterations were made in rates and fares in order to foster the traffic.

Rates and Fares.

659. A sum of Rs. 19,757–14–11½ was paid on account of compensation of claims for goods lost or damaged during the year against Rs. 19,607–7–2 during the last year.

Claims for compensation.

(d) PRESS AND STATIONERY.

660. The Railway Press continued to be under the control of the Traffic department upto 1-4-25 when under government orders all the machinery except that required for tickets printing and urgent Railway work was transferred to the Government State Press. The little work which is now done in the Railway Press has been placed under the control of Audit department since 1-4-25.

Press.

661. The balance of stationery, etc., on 31-7-24 was Rs. 53,492. The amount of purchases during the year was Rs. 89,053 and that of Issue was Rs. 81,976, leaving the balance of Rs. 60,569.

Stationery.

(e) LOCOMOTIVE DEPARTMENT.

662. This department continued to be run under the direct supervision of the Manager and Chief Mechanical Engineer with Mr. L. S. Mody as Deputy Loco & Carr: Superintendent and Mr. A. K. Savant as Assistant in the Loco & Carr: department.

Personnel.

663. One Broad Gauge Tank Engine was purchased from the G. I. P. Railway and put in service from 20–11–24 to work the Broad Gauge siding traffic. Two 2'ft. gauge engines purchased for surplus stock of the P. W. department were repaired and converted into 2'–6" gauge and put into operation from 22–11–24 and 26–7–25 respectively. One "Super–Sentinel" type locomotive was also added making the total number of Narrow Gauge Engines 35. 130 coaching and 695 goods vehicles constituted the Rolling Stock.

Stock.

664. During the year, there were 36 engine failures representing 1 per 15,369 train miles as against 1 per 10,503 miles last year. This compares favourably. The decrease in engine failures was due partly to improvement and standardizing of Injectors and partly to special attention to general details and weeding out of incapable drivers.

Engine failures.

665. Train and engine miles worked during the year amounted to 5,53,299 and 7,05,514 against 4,83,158 and 6,20,211 respectively last year. The increase is due to the additional passenger and goods trains having been run and extra shunting done to meet with traffic requirements.

Train and engine miles.

666. The coal consumption for the year was 53·6 lbs. per train mile and 41·60 lbs. per engine mile against 43·72 lbs. for the former and 34·06 for the latter last year. This increase was due to inferior quality of coal used in the beginning of the year. Improvements in Blast pipes and boilers are being made to reduce the consumption thereby.

Coal consumption.

667. On 31-7-25 there were 31 engines in service and 4 under repairs in Goyagate Shops. This shows an improvement as compared with last year when we had, on 31st July, 27 engines in service and 5 under repairs.

Engines in service.

668. During the year, 18 locomotives passed through shops, 13 having had heavy repairs and 5 light repairs. Five complete rakes, including one for Petlad-Vaso and Petlad-Bhadran Railway were repaired, painted and fitted with electric lights and fans and turned out of shops during the year. Other rakes are being fitted with electric equipment. In all, 195 vehicles passed through the shops for repairs. One upper class carriage on Kosamba-Zankhvav Railway was converted into 1st and 2nd class.

Repairs to rolling stock.

The condition of Locomotives has been improved during the last two years. Practically all the engines have been overhauled. It may be noted that every demand of Traffic department for engine power was complied with without delay throughout the season.

669. Four new goods Brake Vans were constructed and turned out of shops. Three metre gauge coaches fitted with electric lights were also turned out of shops for Okhamandal Railway and two more were almost ready. His Highness the Maharaja's narrow gauge saloon is ready. The Manager's Inspection car was also completed. Broad gauge saloon of Her Highness was ready and that of His Highness made good progress during the year. Construction of 4 Bogie Compos and 12 third Class Coaches were also in progress.

New Stock.

To meet with the increased traffic on our Railway, sanction for additional 6 engines and 32 goods wagons have been received.

Arrangements for the supply of engines and manufacture of wagons have already been made.

670. In the beginning of the year, there were 7 foremen, 19 chargemen and 810 workmen in shops. The number was reduced to 4 foremen (including the Superintendent, Furniture Shop, who is only a part-time employee of the Railway), 15 chargemen and 807 workmen.

Workshop staff.

671. Mr. J. W. Salder, Loco Foreman, continued to be in charge of the Running Shed at Dabhoi and outstations with a fitter in charge at Bilimora and a driver in charge at Petlad to help him in carrying out engine repair work properly and to keep due control over the staff on the isolated branches. Hot water washout arrangement was installed at Goyagate and Dabhoi Running sheds and the same for Bilimora and Petlad are in progress. Erection of machinery, shafting, &c., in Dabhoi Running Shed was in progress.

Running shed & Staff.

672. Mr. L. H. Kharadi continued to be in charge of the Furniture Factory.

Furniture Factory.

673. The expenditure on the maintenance of the Rolling Stock and Running department amounted to Rs. 9,19,697 against Rs. 8,53,106 for the previous year. The increase was due to the increased train and engine mileages run during the year and the large number of engines overhauled and wagons and carriages repaired as detailed above.

Expenditure on maintenance.

674. The expenditure on Shops during the year amounted to Rs. 12,96,585 and the outturn to Rs. 11,19,107. The net profit in Shops amounted to Rs. 13,639.

Workshops expenditure and out-turn.

Capital expenditure on Workshops to end of the year was Rs. 28,35,556 against Rs. 26,78,136 to the end of the last year.

The percentage of outturn in shops in relation to capital works out to 39 per cent.

(f) STORES DEPARTMENT.

675. Mr. P. V. Kamdar continued as Stores Superintendent during the year.

Personnel.

676. Verification of stock by Audit department has been in progress and is expected to be finished shortly.

Stock verification.

677. The total value of stores purchased and issued during the year is as under:—

Stores purchased.

Balance	Rs.	11,11,355
Purchased during 1924–25	„	11,04,554
Issued „ „	„	11,60,134
Balance on 31–7–25	„	10,55,775

Endeavours are being made to reduce the suspense balances as far as practicable.

(g) ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT.

678. Mr. Baganna Balaji continued to be in charge of the Electric department throughout the year.

Personnel.

679. All the electric works and installations in charge of this department were in regular service and maintained satisfactorily during the year.

General working of Electrical department.

680. Inspite of the increased demand for energy, the supply had to be restricted to some extent until transformers of larger output were erected. The total amount of energy generated has increased from 20,29,571 k.w.h. to 21,26.620 k.w.h. during the year. The total maximum supply demanded was 500 k.w.h. against 450 in the preceding year. The energy distributed from the sub-stations has also increased considerably. The rated capacity of the principal sub-stations has been increased from 30 k. w. to 75 k.w. each. With the enlarged transformer plant it will be possible to meet the rapidly increasing demand for supply more readily.

Development of Electrical department.

681. The number of consumers connected to the supply system during the year was 103 against 178 last year; the total number of consumers connected being 821 against 718 at the end of the last year.

Consumers' connections.

682. The output of the principal sub-stations connected to the supply system has increased from 10,40,000 k.w.h. to 12,31,516 k w.h.--an increase of 16 p.c. The demand for supply for the Railway Workshops has also increased from 110 k.w. to 140 k.w. during the year, the energy consumed at the end of the year amounting to 2,45,124 k.w.h.

Sub-stations.

683. The Electric equipments fitted in government buildings and offices during the year amounted to 300 lights and 20 fans. The total equipment in government buildings at the end of the year amounts to 2,525 lights, 450 fans and 3 house service motors. This represents a maximum demand of over 160 k.w. In addition, power equipment aggregating to the maximum load of 26·45 k.w. has been fitted in the State General Hospital for operating X-Ray and Zander apparatus and electric hot air baths.

Electric equipment in government buildings.

684. The total load connected to the supply system amounts to 18,388 lights, 841 fans and 70 motors aggregating to 1,993 k.w. as compared with 16,776 lights, 825 fans and 63 motors aggregating to 1,870 k.w. last year.

Total load.

685. During the year, 12 new telephones were connected to the Central Exchange, the total number of calls passed through the Central Exchange amounting to 4,08,900 calls against 3,39,187 calls last year. A sub-exchange has been opened at Dabhoi and connected with the sub-exchange at Goyagate. Arrangements to open a public call office at Dabhoi are in hand. The scheme of providing automatic telephone exchange and connecting the Palace and some offices to the trunk line between Bombay and Ahmedabad was under consideration.

Telephone exchange.

686. The figures of Electric earnings and expenditure are as under:—

Electric earnings and expenditure.

Gross Earnings.	Working Expenditure.	Net. Earnings.
Rs. 2,26,521-12-10	Rs. 1,44,702-0-1.	Rs. 81,819-12-9

Expenditure for electric capital works during the year was Rs. 1,33,271 against Rs. 1,67,753 for the last year. The total electric capital at the end of the year has been Rs. 17,57,123.

(h) PROVIDENT FUND.

687. The number of members of the Provident Fund Institution of G. B. S. Railway at the end of July 1925 was 555 against 574 to end of the previous year. The amount at the credit of Provident Fund accounts was Rs. 2,12,445.

Members and their accounts at credit.

(i) CO-OPERATIVE CREDIT SOCIETY.

688. There were 292 members on Society Roll against 273 in the previous year who held an aggregate of 1,275 shares against 1,494 last year. The working capital of the society amounted to Rs. 8,087 including deposits of Rs. 2,000 from members and others.

Members.

689. The working expenses of the society for this year amounted to Rs. 281-8-6 against Rs. 554-11-6 for the last year. On the whole, the net profit amounted to Rs. 644-14-7 against Rs. 109-7-2 last year.

Working expenses.

(j) FINE FUND.

690. During the year, Rs. 3,816 were received in Fine Fund, the total disbursements being Rs. 890, leaving a total balance of Rs. 10,560.

Receipts and disbursements.

(k) RAILWAY INSTITUTE.

691. There were two "At Homes" given by the President of the Institute and these were successful. There were also two shows of "Magic Performances" for the benefit of the members and their families. Several matches were played by the Railway Cricket Team with local elevens and the former always came out winners. Daily papers, periodicals, magazines and an interesting library made available by the Lending Section of the State Library form the attractive items of the Institute.

Working.

692. There were 161 members on the roll of the Institute and the cash balance at the end of the year was Rs. 751 with pending bills disposed of.

Members.

(l) WATCH AND WARD.

693. There were 27 watchmen on the list during the year against 17 last year. The expenditure on this account amounted to Rs. 4,021 against Rs. 2,171 last year.

Staff and its expenditure.

(m) GENERAL.

694. An Advisory Board consisting of the following members was formed by His Highness' government to advise the Railway administration in matters affecting the interests of the Railway and the public convenience :—

Advisory Board.

Official Members.

1. The Manager & Mechanical Engineer-in-Chief.
2. The Dy. Manager & Engineer-in-Chief.
3. The Traffic Superintendent.
4. The Director of Commerce & Industry.
5. The Navsari Prant Suba.

Non-Official Members.

6. Rai Saheb Chandrika Prasada.
7. Sheth Lalji Naranji, J.P. of Bombay.
8. Sheth Chhotalal Kilachand.
9. Mr. Vrajbhai Vaghjibhai, member of the Baroda Legislative Council.
10. Mr. Mohanlal Virji Vakil, B.A., LL.B.

During the year, two meetings, viz. on 22nd January and 21st February 1925 were held and several important resolutions were passed therein.

Railway Fund.

695. A proposal for separating the Railway Fund from the State Finance so as to make the Railway department self-supporting, was made and is under the consideration of His Mighness' government.

C. The City Improvement Trust.

Personnel.

696. During the year, the operations of the City Improvement Trust existed till the 5th November 1924 beyond which date it ceased to exist. The administration of the City Improvement Trust during its existence was conducted by a Board of Trustees consisting of a Chairman and four Members, two nominated by government and two selected by the Baroda City Municipality under the City Improvement Trust Act of 1910. Shrimant Ramchandra Narayan Ambegaokar worked as Chairman, while the following gentlemen continued to be the Trustees of the Board:—

1.	Mr. R. R. Pawar.	Government Members.
2.	Dr. S. M. Pagar.	
3.	Mr. Maneklal Ambaram.	Elected by the Baroda City Municipality.
4.	Mr. Shreenivas Ramchandra Jadey.	

Four meetings of the Board were held during this period. Mr. G. D. Parekh worked as Secretary and Executive Engineer while Mr. G. H. Limaye worked as Compensation Officer.

General Finance.

697. The opening balance at the commencement of the year was Rs. 1,40,143-6-11 excluding the balance of deposits. Rs. 1,25,000 were sanctioned as Government Grant for 1924-25 but subsequently the same was proportionately curtailed to Rs. 31,250 as the City Improvement Trust was allowed to be continued for the first three months only.

As regards Municipal contribution, the Baroda Municipality provided only Rs. 10,000 in its current year's budget, the amount of 3rd annual instalment out of the unpaid grant of Rs. 40,000 to be paid by it during the year 1921-22, but nothing was paid by that body during the year. It may be pointed out here that the dues of Municipal Grant remained to be paid by the Baroda City Municipality to the City Improvement Trust are shown as detailed below:—

1. Rs. 20,000.—The amount of 3rd and 4th annual instalments to be paid in the year 1924-25 and 1925-26, out of the unpaid grant of Rs. 40,000 for the year 1921-22.
2. Rs. 40,000.—The amount of Municipal Grant for the year 1923-24 to be paid in four equal instalments in four years commencing from the year 1924-25.
3. Rs. 10,000.—As Municipal Grant for the year 1924-25, out of Rs. 40,000 as the City Improvement Trust was allowed to be continued for the one-fourth period of the year.

Rs. 70,000

The revenue derived from various other sources amounted to Rs. 13,865-11-9. Thus the total amount available for expenditure during the period was as under:—

		Rs. a. p.
1.	Opening Balance ...	1,40,143- 6-11
2.	Government Grant ...	31,250- 0- 0
3.	Trust Revenue ...	13,865-11- 9
	Total ...	1,85,259- 2- 8

698. The total expenditure incurred by the City Improvement Trust during its existence in the year, amounted to Rs. 91,798-11-8 under different heads as detailed below:—

Expenditure.

		Rs. a. p.
1.	Communication.	22,808- 6- 2
2.	Irrigation and Drainage.	50,877- 4- 2
3.	Other works of importance.	5,817-15-11
4.	Tools and plant.	270- 0- 0
5.	Establishment.	9,911-13-11
6.	Buildings, Original.	2,568-13- 3
7.	Do. Repairs.	84- 6- 3
	Total ...	91,798-11- 8

From this it will be seen that the progress made during the period was satisfactory.

699. Over and above these budgetted works, the City Improvement Trust also executed other works termed as contribution works as usual. The work of maintaining the completed portions of the City Drainage works was done on behalf of the Baroda City Municipality. The acquisition of properties behind the Baroda Bank building on behalf of the P. W. department was in progress. The works of drainage connections to private individuals were also undertaken and the expenditure incurred on it was Rs 21,314-10-3 as per details given below ;—

Contribution works.

		Rs. a. p.
1.	Baroda City Municipality... ...	17,252–13–11
2.	Public Works department. ...	3,774 –0– 9
3.	Private individuals	287–11– 7
	Total	21,314–10– 3

700. The following new schemes were under consideration during the period:—

Schemes under consideration.

1. Widening the Chitekhan lane on Mandvi to Goyagate Road.
2. Opening and joining Navi Pole, Ladwada.
3. Widening the main entrance of Mogalwada.
4. Opening the lane between houses of Raopura road and those of Anastu Tekara for laying drainage line.
5. Opening the lane between houses of Anastu Tekara and Kashiabhai's lane for laying drainage line.

701. The following schemes were sanctioned during the year:—

Schemes sanctioned during the year.

1. Acquisition of Girjabai Saheb's Paga and laying it out for building purposes.
2. Modifications in the sanctioned scheme for City Drainage Section X causing additional acquisition.
3. Replacing the present machinery at the Pumping Station No. III near the Dufferin Hospital with new and powerful machinery.

702. The following works were completed during the year:—

Works completed during the year.

1. Laying 6″ pipe line behind Golwad opposite the Maharaja Theatre.
2. Laying 6″ pipe line in portion of Vadi Wadi in Raopura.
3. Constructing a retaining wall on the Kothi Avenue road.
4. Making stone curbing on the Kothi Avenue road.

5. Constructing a metalled road from Ranmukteshvar Tarsali to Factory site road.
6. Laying water works main on the Factory site.

703. The drainage works made good progress during the period. Pipe sewers in total length of 0·3 miles were laid with necessary accessories such as 10 Man-holes, 1 Inspection chamber, 1 Flushing tank and 2 Ventilators. The total length of the drainage line from the commencement of the drainage works to the end of this period came to 59·65 miles which includes also the length of drainage lines not proposed by Mr. Baldwin Latham but executed as per requirements.

Works under execution.

The construction of a well and a building for A. P. S. No. 8 was completed and the machinery ordered out was also received and set up and the work of laying over-head main for the electric connections was mostly completed.

The work of making drainage connections to houses was in progress and 109 house-connections were made during this period. Out of this number, 87 connections were made at the cost of the City Improvement Trust, while the remaining 22 connections were done at the cost of house owners. The number of drainage connections cut off during the year was 12. Thus the net number of drainage connections during the year amounted to 97. The total number of drainage connections in the beginning of the year was 12,177 to which the above 97 connections when added the total number of drainage connections came to 12,274 at the close of the City Improvement Trust.

704. The works under this head generally consisted of clearing the insanitary areas of the city, opening blind lanes for free ventilation and providing new sites for building sanitary houses. The schemes sanctioned and remaining under execution were as follows :—

Work of improvement under execution.

1. *Avenue road from Kothi junction to Pulbari traffic road.*—Properties coming in the road line being acquired and the metalled road constructed, the work of retaining walls and stone curbing was commenced and finished except the temporary retaining walls. The work of making the storm water drain was also completed. Almost all the work was completed except the shifting of the electric posts to the centre of the road near Kothi junction and laying green plot of 20′ diameter round it and setting back the temporary retaining walls and completing storm water drains there.

2. *Factory Site works.*—The Factory Site works were pushed on and almost all the works except the metalling of the two roads, viz. (1) constructing a road from Gomati tank to Railway premises and (2) extending and constructing a metalled road from Ranmukteshvar Tarsali road to Factory site on the east side, were finished. The work of laying water works main and erecting stand-posts with necessary sinks was also done. The metalling of these roads being let out by contract was in progress and brick bats were collected and were spread and consolidated.

3. *Night Soil Depot.*—The work of constructing a night soil depot at Nadiawad, in lieu of a platform on the Lehripura Murdabari road which was removed when the new road was constructed, was started and almost all the work was completed except some portion of stone work, setting up of the machinery and erecting a shed for the same.

Houses for the poor and middle classes.

705. A sum of Rs. 1,000 was in the Budget for the investment of Trust Funds in property for original works but nothing could be spent on it. All the buildings that have been constructed by way of investment were maintained during the period at a cost of Rs. 84–6–3 and all the buildings remained occupied during the period.

706. All the completed portions of City Drainage works were maintained during the period at the cost of Rs. 8,285-7-10 against Rs. 8,750. The land irrigated by the drainage water given to the cultivators was 62 Bighas and 14 Vasas and the total revenue derived for this was Rs. 281-2-0. Besides this, Rs. 74 were received as previous year's dues.

Maintenance of the completed portion of the City Drainage Works.

707. In the beginning of the year, there were 155 cases for the properties to be acquired and adding 11 new cases of the current year, the total number of compensation cases to be settled amounted to 166. Of these, 29 cases were decided by the Compensation Officer at a cost of Rs. 2,250-11-6 during the period. 137 cases were left over to be decided at the close of the City Improvement Trust.

Compensation.

708. The City Improvement Trust came into existence as per wishes of the Huzur in the year 1910-1911. During its existence, most of the main roads were widened and several blind lanes in various parts of the city were opened to have free light and ventilation. Some plots were laid out for building purposes. Gardens were laid out in order to provide places for recreation. In short, every effort was made to make the city of Baroda well built, freely ventilated and healthy. A greater part of the city has now been improved except some portion in the city proper which still requires improvement.

Work done by the City Improvement Trust.

709. The City Improvement Trust being ordered to be wound up as a result of the Retrenchment Committee's Report, the operations were wound up by the 5th November 1924 after handing over different branches of works to government departments and to the City Municipality.

Close of the C. I. Trust

CHAPTER VIII.

PUBLIC INSTRUCTION.

A. Education.

(a) ADMINISTRATION AND DIRECTION.

Personnel.

710. The Commissioner of Education, Mr. Nandnath K. Dixit, continued in charge of the department of Education, English as well as Vernacular, including the Libraries, the Museum and the Picture Gallery, the Technical Institute, and the Boy Scout Organisation He was assisted in his official work by an Educational Assistant designated Naib Vidyadhikari and a superintendent and by an inspecting staff of four Divisional Inspectors, two Inspectresses for Girls' schools and 27 Deputy Educational Inspectors including special officers for the Urdu and Antyaja schools.

Educational Institutions.

711. The total strength of Educational Institutions at the end of the year was 2,916 as against 2,947 of the previous year, which shows a decrease of 31 as a result of the departmental efforts to combine efficiency with economy, for the total number of pupils attending these institutions was 2,17,138 as against 2,15,130 of the previous year. This increase in the number of pupils of over 2,000 was very largely the result of careful and proper inspection and the co-operation of the Revenue Officers in the enforcing of the Compulsory Education Law.

Kinds of Institutions.

712. The following tabular statement shows the total strength of the English and Vernacular Educational Institutions and the number of pupils of both sexes attending them :—

No.	Name of Institution.	Number.	Number of male pupils.	Number of female pupils.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6
	English Education.				
1	The College	1	801	13	814
2	High Schools for Boys ...	19	7,473	2	7,475
3	High Schools for Girls ...	1	...	330	330
4	A. V. Schools	47	5,375	...	5,375
5	High Standard Classes ...	7	141	...	141
6	The Prince's School ...	1	6	...	6
7	Special Institutions ...	2	284	...	284
	Total ...	78	14,080	345	14,425
	Vernacular Education.				
8	Training College for Men.	1	188	...	188
9	Training College for Women	1	...	69	69
10	Vernacular Schools for Boys	2,355	1,29,033	...	1,29,033
11	Vernacular Schools for Girls	368	...	66,093	66,093
12	The Kala-Bhavan... ...	1	404	...	404
13	Other Institutions... ...	112	5,704	1,222	6,926
	Total ...	2,838	1,35,329	67,384	2,02,713
	Grand Total...	2,916	1,49,409	67,729	2,17,138

164 students were learning English in three mixed schools at Attarsumba, Gangadhara and Beyt.

Figures for past 5 years.

713. The figures of attendance at the Primary Schools for the last five years as tabulated below clearly show that there has been a steady increase from the year 1922-23 :—

Year.	Number of Pupils.
1	2
1920-1921	1,86,611
1921-1922	1,91,402
1922-1923	1,90,280
1923-1924	2,01,053
1924-1925	2,02,713

7. In consideration of the annual donation of Rs. 6,000 to the Shanti-Niketan of Dr. Rabindra-Nath Tagore, 5 students of the Baroda State were admitted there without charging any tuition fees.

8. A sum of Rs. 1,000 was given as donation to the Hind Vijaya Gymkhana, Baroda, an institution which is doing very useful work towards organisation of sports and physical culture.

9. Professor Arte of the Baroda College, Messrs. Shrigondekar and Rangaswami of the Sanskrit Library and Mr. Bharatram B. Mehta of the Translation Branch, were deputed to attend the Third Oriental Conference held at Madras.

10. Arrangements were being made in a few places like Kakarwada, Vankal and Kheralu, during the year, to provide facilities for adult education. It is a fresh beginning in this direction and success would naturally be slow.

11. As a result of the spread of enlightenment, a couple of widows of the Brahmin community from amongst the women teachers married outside their own circle, thus showing that, they after their education, were not prepared slavishly to follow the time-honoured customs of their caste.

12. Government have sanctioned the proposal of opening a Hostel for the Bhil children at Amroli in Tilakwada Taluka for a period of two years, to be extended further, if the people are likely to make use of the institution.

13. Some interesting and valuable Nepalese collections and curios with precious stones were purchased for the Baroda Museum for Rs. 50,000.

14. Out of the amount of Compulsory fines, clothes valued at Rs. 5,000 were distributed to poor and needy boys and girls reading in the schools of the Raj.

15. The Jayasingrao Sarvajanik Library was awarded a grant of Rs. 500 for two years.

16. The revision scheme of the Kalabhavan sanctioned as per suggestions of Dr. Hay of the Bangalore Research Institute was started during the year.

17. Mr. Charles King, Principal, Engineering College, Benares Hindu University, was invited to visit the Kalabhavan and to report on its working. Accordingly he visited the Kalabhavan in March 1925 and made some suggestions which were under consideration of the government.

18. The posts of Gymnasium teachers in the Vernacular and English branches of the Education department which were still ungraded were graded as Rs. 20 to 25.

19. With a view to give encouragement to private Akhadas—Gymnasiums—government sanctioned Rs. 2,500 for allotment out of the Infant Marriage Prevention Act fines. It was gratifying to note that more Akhadas were being started because of the help promised.

20. The Gandevi Public Library held its Diamond Jubilee celebration along with a Library Exhibition.

21. Rs. 31,241 were received from the people of several villages in the State as peoples' contribution towards the erection of school buildings in their own villages.

22. Rs. 2,36,900 were sanctioned by government in the Public Works department Budget for the construction of school buildings.

(c) ENGLISH EDUCATION.

715. During the year, there were 74 institutions, where English was taught as against 67 of the last year.

English Institutions.

716. The number of pupils on the roll in these institutions is shown in the following table:—

Number of pupils.

Number of Institutions.		Institutions.	Number of students.	
1923-24.	1924-25.		1923-24.	1924-25.
1	2	3	4	5
		GOVERNMENT.		
1	1	Baroda College	844	814
14	14	High Schools for boys ...	5,205	5,534
1	1	High School for girls ...	279	330
25	25	A. V. Schools	3,634	3,719
2	2	Boy Scout Organisations ...	565	284
1	1	Prince's School	6	6
		AIDED.		
5	5	High Schools	2,074	1,941
6	6	A. V. Schools	719	752
2	4	Standards V, VI. Classes...	40	74
		UNAIDED.		
9	16	A. V. Schools	623	904
4	3	Unaided Classes	88	67
70	78	Total ...	14,077	14,425

Total number of pupils learning English.

717. To the total number of students indicated in the table shown above may be added 1,741, of whom 1,407 were learning English in 29 Primary Schools, 170 in the Antyaja Schools at Baroda, Navsari and Patan and 164 were learning English in the three mixed schools at Attarsumba, Gangadhara and Beyt. The total number of pupils learning English came to 16,166 (15,817 boys and 349 girls) as against 15,300 (14,902 boys and 298 girls) showing a steady increase of 212.

718. The College, founded in the year 1882 and recognised by the Bombay University for the full course in Arts and Science in 1890, was under the control of Principal S. G. Burrow, B.Sc., A.R.C.S. (London), from 26th November 1924. It secured, as usual, satisfactory results at the various University Examinations. The Principal was assisted by a staff of 15 Professors, 2 Assistant Professors, 3 Lecturers, 2 Demonstrators and 2 Fellows. A great loss to the college was sustained by the sad and untimely death of the late Principal A. B. Clarke on the 4th of October 1924. He had worked as Principal of the college for about 15 years and as Commissioner of Euducation and Vidyadhikari for about 5 years. His knowledge of the educational problems of the day coupled with his experience of college work made him a very useful member of the department and his services were highly valued by government.

Baroda College.

719. Mr. R. C. Guha was engaged for six months as a temporary Professor of English and his engagement has been extended for a further period of six months. During the absence of Principal S. G. Burrow from June to September 1925, occasioned by a severe attack of enteric fever, Professor Arte acted as the Principal. Mr. C. A. Buch was appointed Lecturer in Physics for 1 year from June 1925.

Changes in the staff.

720. The college had on its roll 814 students, as against 844 in the last year. Of these, 13 were lady students against 10 in the last year. As the three government hostels, which are in the vicinity of the college, afforded accommodation to only 150 students, a bungalow in the Sayaji Gang, which accommodated about 35 students, was hired to provide additional accommodation to college boys coming from outside Baroda. The offer of Rs. 25,000 for the hostel for Patidar students has been renewed. Mr. Samal Bechar has offered a bungalow in the Baroda Camp for use as a college hostel.

Number of students and hostels.

721. The University Inspection Committee consisting of Principal Rowlinson, Principal Shah and Dr. Meldrum, visited the college in December last. They reported favourably on the extent and quality of the teaching work and generally showed their satisfaction about the discipline of the college.

The University Inspection Committee.

722. The college possesses a good and well-stocked Library. The annual Library Grant is Rs. 1,000 and in addition a special grant of Rs. 500 is sanctioned for Science books. An initial grant of Rs. 2,000 for purchase of recognised literature in History was sanctioned. The Library was well utilised by the staff and the students. Besides this, the students availed themselves of the free use of the Central Library located in the city.

Library.

723. The College Observatory continued to remain under the supervision of Principal S. G. Burrow and continued as usual to take meteorological readings thrice a day.

Observatory.

724. The management of the College Botanical Garden and the College and High School grounds by Professor Shevde is reported to be satisfactory.

College grounds.

725. There is a provision from the funds of the Students' Union for (a) Cricket, Tennis, Football, Hockey, Badminton and Ping-Pong. The Students' Union likewise maintains a Reading Room and issues annually the "Baroda College Magazine". There is a Debating Society conducted mainly by the students side by side with Historical, Philosophical and Scientific Societies. Professor J. M. Mehta has taken on himself the onerous duty of working as a General Secretary to the College Union.

College activities.

726. The total expenditure on account of the college amounted to Rs. 1,48,614 as against Rs. 1,52,910 of last year. The receipts

Expenditure.

from fees, etc., amounted to Rs. 91,718 as against Rs. 60,159 of last year. Thus the net cost of educating each pupil came to Rs. 182 in the year as against Rs. 181 in the preceding year.

727. The following table shows the results of the various examinations :—

Examination results.

Name of the Examination.	Number of students sent up.	Number of students passed.	Remarks.
1	2	3	4
M.A.	5	3	...
B.A. (October)	35	11	...
B.A. (Honours) April	52	31	1 1st Class. 16 2nd Class.
B.A. (Pass) Do.	57	16	...
Intermediate Arts...	242	89	7 2nd Class.
Intermediate (Science)	116	55	1 1st Class. 19 2nd Class.
B.Sc. ... ... Sub. ...	25 9	14 7	3 2nd Class.
Preliminary Science	...	...	...
First Year Certificate Examination	354	214	1 1st Class. 21 2nd Class.
Total...	895	440	

The total number of graduates turned out by the college up to the end of the year was 1,540.

High Schools for boys and girls.

728. The number of Government High Schools continued to be the same, i.e. 15, as that of last year. Of these, the Maharani High School at Baroda is exclusively meant for girls. Besides these, there were aided High Schools,

2 at Baroda, and 1 each at Dharmaj, Navsari and Gandevi. There are 2 classes, one aided Matriculation class at Vaso and the other unaided Matriculation class at Kadi.

Results of School Leaving and School Final Examinations.

729. The following table shows how these High Schools fared at the University Examinations of School Leaving and the School Final Examinations :—

No.	Name of the Institution.	School Leaving Certificate Examination.				School Final Examination.			
		Sent up.		Passed.		Sent up.		Passed.	
		Students.	Ex-Students.	Students.	Ex-Students.	Students.	Ex-Students.	Students.	Ex-Students.
	Government.								
1	Baroda High School ...	149	6	96	4	...	...	...	...
2	Maharani High School for Girls, Baroda ...	9	...	6	...	...	...	...	...
3	N. K. High School, Petlad.	62	4	34	2	5	...	5	...
4	M. M. High School, Sojitra	30	...	7	...	1	...	...	...
5	T. B. High School, Bhadran	23	4	14	1	1	...	...	...
6	Padra High School ...	12	...	5	...	...	...	...	...
7	Dabhoi High School ...	16	6	8	...	...	...	...	...
8	Pattan High School ...	60	2	15	...	...	...	...	...
9	G. D. High School, Visnagar	15	...	8	...	...	...	...	...
10	T. J. High School, Mehsana	18	...	14	...	...	...	...	...
11	L. S. High School, Sidhpur	21	...	3	...	...	...	...	...
12	M. & R. Tata High School, Billimora ...	14	...	8	...	...	...	...	...
13	V. D. Galliara High School, Kathor	16	...	5	...	4	...	...	...
14	Amreli High School ...	26	1	13	1	...	...	...	...
15	N. D. Haloo High School, Dwarka	10	1	4	...	...	...	...	...
	Aided.								
16	Shree Sayaji High School, Baroda	47	...	26	...	...	...	...	...
17	Maharani Chimnabai High School, Baroda	25	10	11	3	...	...	...	...
18	Dharmaj High School ...	11	...	8	...	...	...	...	...
19	Sir C. J. N. Z. Madressa, Navsari	64	6	34	2	4	...	4	...
20	Sir C. J. R. High School, Gandevi	16	1	10	1	...	...	...	...
	Unaided.								
21	Kothari Matriculation Class, Kadi	23	...	11	...	2	...	...	...
22	Vaso Matriculation Class.	11	...	6	...	3	...	...	...

730. Hostels have been attached to the High Schools at Patan, Amreli, Petlad, Mehsana and Visnagar. They offer fairly adequate accommodation. The Dabu Quarters at Navsari accommodated a large number of students of the Madressa High School.

Hostels attached to High Schools.

731. The number of Anglo Vernacular Schools, both Government and Aided, was 31 and in addition to these there were 4 aided fifth, sixth and seventh standard classes attached to the Government A. V. Schools at Kalol, Dehgam and Vaso respectively, and 19 Unaided A. V. Schools and Classes. The High Schools at Dabhoi, Padra, Billimora, Sojitra, Bhadran and Kathore and the A. V. Schools at Kadi were provided with Hostels on the grant-in-aid principles.

A. V. Schools and Hostels.

732. The aggregate annual value of the State scholarships tenable in the Baroda College and the Secondary Schools of the State was Rs. 8,684 against the same amount in the preceding year. Besides these, two commercial scholarships each of the value of Rs.20 p.m. were awarded to Baroda State students studying at the Sydenham College of Commerce and Economics at Bombay.

Scholarships for Higher and Secondary Education.

Two scholars who had been deputed to Delhi for the study of the Ayurvedic and the Unani system of medicine continued to receive a monthly scholarship of Rs. 50 each. Mr. Hakim Sajadally who was deputed to study the Unani medicine was declared successful in the final examination. Since his return he has been employed in the Wadi dispensary where a branch of medical help on Unani lines was specially opened. The scholar sent to the National Medical College, Calcutta, was paid Rs. 50 p.m. Out of the annual grant of Rs. 8,000 for Khangi Scholarships founded by His Highness the Maharaja Saheb, Rs. 5,900 were spent in awarding scholarships to 24 boys and 3 girls. An amount of Rs. 1,234 was expended on the payment of maintenance allowance to 3 boys and 3 girls and a lady. Maratha Scholar-

ships of the total value of Rs. 2,975 were awarded to 40 boys and 8 girls of the Maratha community studying in and outside the State schools from the interest accruing on the Maratha Education Fund of Rs. 1,50,000 founded by His Highness the Maharaja Saheb. Out of the amount of this interest, Rs. 2,400 were paid to the Deccan Association and one-sixth of the amount was paid to the Maratha Educational Conference as usual. Besides this, an amount of Rs. 4,360 was spent on the payment of Shree Sayaji Rao Scholarships out of the interest on Rs. 1,00,000 set apart for the spread of higher education amongst the members of the Maratha caste.

Besides this, an amount of Rs. 1,800 per annum has been sanctioned by the Huzur for the education of Maratha girls. This amount was paid to the Deccan Association, Poona, for distribution as scholarships.

Expenditure and Receipts.

733. Expenditure and receipts under the head of English Education for the last three years are shown below:—

Year.	Expenditure.	Income.
1	2	3
1922-23	6,01,920	1,60,723
1923-24	5,92,950	1,81,882
1924-25	6,01,906	2,19,115

(d) Boy Scout Organisation.

The Scout organisation.

734. The Scout movement in the Raj has been in existence for over six years and a half, and has given ample proof of its usefulness. It was controlled and directed by Mr. R. K. Nulker, B.A., the Scout Commissioner, Baroda State, during the year, with the help of Mr. B. S. Dave as his Assistant, and a number of Scout Masters. This movement has harnessed to useful purpose the imagination and

energy natural to youth. The Boy Scout organisation acted as a useful adjunct of the educational institutions in supplementing their efforts at character-building and laying down the foundations of good citizenship in the rising youths of the State.

The work appreciated outside Baroda territories.

735. It is a valuable achievement, indeed, during the last five years when we find that the Baroda Scouts have made a name for themselves far and wide, earning good opinions of the founders of the movement, Sir Baden Powell, H. R. H. the Duke of Connaught, and H. R. H. the Prince of Wales. We sent out our young leaders as Organising Officers to Dhrangadra, Bikaner, Devghar–Baria, and even to distant parts such as Sholapur and Allahabad, thus showing that the work done by the Baroda Scouts was valued not only in Gujarat and Kathiawar but far beyond the Presidency.

The movement spreads.

736. Time was now ripe to broadbase the movement at home on universal and popular good–will, to remove old prejudices against the new order of things and to extend the movement further to suit local needs and requirements. In May, 1923 the government sanctioned a scheme for training teachers of the different schools as Scout Masters. This enabled the movement to have about 50 Scout Masters as Lieutenants to help in the realisation of Scout ideals throughout the State. How useful and serviceable these Scout Masters are and how popular the movement grows to be, is obvious to every body in touch with this institution. When the second Training Camp was held in May 1924, a second batch of thirty Scout Masters was trained. The importance of training given in the Training Camp could be judged best by the fact that Bhavnagar, Wankaner and Balashinor sent their representatives here for receiving Scout training and even those who were trained at the Lonawala Camp came once more for being trained with the Baroda Scouts. Both these camps included men besides teachers who sought the training as private citizens. Almost every school in the State has by now one or more Scout Masters on its staff, capable

of starting troops and above all, guide the physical culture of the school, side by side, with Scout Craft. It was found possible to extend the public utility of the movement by developing the Ambulance Section and sending out trained Scouts to Pavagarh, Chandod, Sidhpur and Miradatar. The Scout's Motto, "*Be prepared*" and the Scout's religion of "*A good turn daily*" are thus being more extensively and intensively realised in the Scout family of the State.

The total number of Scouts.

737. The organisation continued to work under the same staff with the addition of three Scout Masters each getting an honorarium of Rs. 15 p.m. Only two Headquarters were maintained, viz. the Baroda Central Headquarters and the Navsari Headquarters. The latter have now a fine building of their own. The Central Scout Headquarters in the Capital are located in the spacious Hall of the basement of the Museum building in the Public Park. During the year, the number of Scouts in the Central Headquarters was 187. In addition to the Central Headquarters, there are six independent troops in the city such as the Baroda High School, the Maharani Chimnabai High School, the Middle School, the Kala-Bhavan, the Reformatory and the Antyaja School. In addition to these, in the mofussil there are other District Troops at Padra, Dabhoi, Petlad, Sojitra, Vaso, Karjan, Sinor, Waghodia, Gandevi, Kathor, Billimora, Karachia, Kherwadi, Patan, Mehsana, Visnagar, Vadnagar, Sidhpur, Unjha, Kadi, Kalol, Dehgam, Amreli and Dhari. All of them showed fairly satisfactory progress. The total strength of Scouts in the State at the end of the year was 1,864 as against 1,125 last year, showing a steady increase of 739 excluding a reserve of over 50 who are yet under training for the tender-foot test.

Scouts' training.

738. Although a regular Training Camp was not organised this year, eight Scout Masters were trained at the Headquarters from Baroda, Waghodia and also from Indian States such as Balashinore, Palitana and Kishangarh. Thus the Headquarters

continued to help those, who wanted to take the Scout training. The demand for a regular Scout Training Camp was found to be increasing.

Important events.

739. During the year, the Scouts rendered notable service at the Navsari sports, the Baby Week in Baroda and various other functions throughout the State. Scout Masters and Scout Officers from different parts of India paid visits of varying duration to study our methods. It was noteworthy that the advice of the Scout Commissioner was sought by the Rajpipla and Palitana States and the organisation had thus the credit of initiating the Scout movement at both these places. The schemes based on a closer study of local conditions which were submitted by the Scout Commissioner were adopted in their entirety. During the year, the opening of the Head-quarters at Navsari at the hands of the Dewan Sir Manubhai, was an important event. Sheth Nanabhai Chowkshi with his handsome donation of Rs. 15,000 enabled a splendid Head-quarters to be built, thus giving a fine lead to the other Prants. At Baroda, the 6th anniversary was celebrated by a Huge Camp Fire under the Presidentship of the Dewan when all the leading officers and gentlemen of the city were invited. Scout activity throughout the Raj was steadily becoming more purposeful and effective both in developing physical and mental fitness as well as a higher capacity for social service.

The most notable event of the year was organised in Patan Abhyas-Griha Troop when 15 boys went to Dharnidhar and back covering 175 miles in 15 days and rendering some social service in every village on their way. The Scouts have been able to render very good help in carrying patients to and from the hospital as also from the Railway Station to their homes. Besides Ambulance work, very useful and responsible service was rendered throughout the Raj at all public functions, Baby Weeks, Library Conference, Sports, Tournaments, Fairs and Fires. In this regard the Baden Powell Association Scout Magazine in reviewing the work has paid a very high compliment and asked their Scouts to follow our example.

740. The total expenditure on the Scouts Organisation was Rs. 11,193 as against Rs. 12,318 of last year. From the statistical figures of expenditure of the last few years, it could be seen that even with the reduced expenditure, the organisation was spreading rapidly. In fact, it was trying to be self-supporting without impairing its efficiency.

Expenditure.

(e) EDUCATION OF HIS HIGHNESS' GRAND CHILDREN.

741. Mr. B. A. English continued, during the year, as Principal of the Prince's School and as tutor to Shrimant Pratapsinh Rao Raje. Mr. N. A. Kelkar left to join Maharaj Kumar Dhairyashil Rao Gaekwar on 14th December 1924, Mr. K. M. Gupte left on the 16th of June 1925 reverting to his substantive post in the Revenue department, Mr. S. V. Pendse of the Huzur Office taking his place. Mr. R. R. Vakharia of the Kalabhavan continued to teach Science, while Mr. English taught English and Mathematics. The Maharaj Pautra's companion Mr. R. M. Nadkarni left for Mehsana on 13th November 1924, and his two other companions, Shri. Pravinsinh of Sant Rampur and R. P. Desai appeared for the University Matriculation Examination in March 1925, both of whom were declared successful. The Maratha companions Shirke and Pawar made good progress during the year. Amongst the visitors to the school who came to see what arrangements were made for the education of the Maharaj Pautra was Principal Turner of the Rajkot Rajkumar College who expressed himself favourably with what he saw of the working of the school. On 20th June 1925, 3 new companions—V. K. Uplap, G. P. Dandanayak and J. M. Oza joined the school. Shirke and Pawar also continued. Games and drill continued as usual and Mr. B. D. Nimbalker, the Gymnasium Inspector, supervised the gymnastics at Lal Bag.

Education of His Highness' grand children.

742. The total expenditure of this school amounted to Rs. 27,432 as against Rs. 28,194 of last year.

Expenditure.

(f) VERNACULAR EDUCATION.

Number and strength of Primary Schools.

743. At the end of the year, there were 2,738 Government, 24 Aided and 55 Unaided Primary Schools and 2 Orphanages, making a total of 2,817 institutions, as against 2,860 of last year. There were besides these, 2 Training Colleges including 1 for Women, 5 Technical Institutions, 1 Reformatory, 1 Patan Ayurvedic Pathshala, 5 Music Schools, 4 Antyaja Boarding Houses and 3 Boarding Houses at Waghodia, Dwarka and Amroli of the Tilakwada Mahal, making in all 2,838 institutions.

The following table shows the number of institutions and the number of pupils attending them :--

Year.	Boys' Schools.		Girls' Schools.		Other Institutions.		Total.	
	No. of schools.	No. of pupils.	No. of schools.	No. of pupils.	No. of schools.	No. of pupils.	No. of schools.	No. of pupils.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1923-24.	2,394	1,30,886	368	63,203	115	6,964	2,877	2,01 053
1924-25.	2,355	1,29,033	368	66,093	115	7,587	2,838	2,02,713

Compulsory Fines.

744. The amount of fines recovered under the Compulsory Education Act imposed on defaulters for not sending their children to schools and for non-attendance amounted during the year to Rs. 1,25,749 and fines amounting to Rs. 31,190 were remitted. From the amount of fines recovered under the Compulsory measure, 5% is given to Patels and Talatis as remuneration, 35% is devoted towards helping children of poor parents and 60% is utilised in building school houses.

Expenditure on Primary Schools.

745. The total expenditure on all Primary Schools amounted to Rs. 18,19,818 as against Rs. 17,44,536 last year which gives an average of Rs. 668 per school as against Rs. 631 of last year.

746. The idea of starting an institution for training teachers was first conceived in 1872, and accordingly a normal class for training teachers was opened without any practising or observation school in the beginning. This class was, however, closed in the year 1876. With the passing of time, a Training College for Men was established in 1885. It grew very popular. As a result of the employment of teachers of literary renown, the school turned out some of the best teachers in the department. After a notable career of thirteen years, the college was closed in the year 1898. Once again, after a good long spell of seven years, the present Training College for Men was brought into being for training teachers already in State service. On the introduction of compulsory education in that epoch-making year 1906-07, the necessity of training many more teachers becoming apparent, the curriculum was reorganised. In 1908, the period of study was extended from two to three years and the staff was increased and it was arranged to accommodate 250 students every year. In 1913, an additional Training College was opened and after some time, it was shifted to Patan. Two more First Year Training Classes were opened at Amreli and Navsari in 1918-19. With the exception of the Central Institution for training teachers, all other classes were closed in the year 1922-23 as the need of training teachers was not so acute now as it was before. In consideration of effecting possible retrenchment in the growing expenditure on education, besides closing the three District Training Classes, the number of students in the one full-fledged Training College at Baroda was also limited, so, at the end of the year there were 188 students in all under training, of whom 110 were in the First Year, 44 in the Second Year and 34 in the Third. The staff consisted of one Principal, one Vice-Principal, and 11 teachers most of whom were graduates. There were five classes in all, three for the First Year, one for the Second Year and one for the Third Year students.

History of Training Institutions for Men.

There are twenty scholarships of Rs. 10 each in the Second Year, while in the First Year all get scholarships of Rs. 9 each. Four teachers from Ahmedabad joined the Training college in the Third Year class as the Third Year class there was closed. They were charged Rs. 12 each per term.

Practising Schools.

747. The Baroda Training College for Men has two Practising Schools attached to it, where practical instruction in the art of teaching is imparted to scholars studying in the college. The Practising schools are staffed with experienced Third Year trained teachers.

Accommodation for Training Classes and results of examinations.

748. In Baroda, the Training College for Men continued to occupy its own building situated at Kareli Bag far from the din and noise of the city. At the annual College Examination 151 scholars appeared for the First Year, 47 for the Second Year and 29 for the Third Year Examination, of whom 97, 38 and 29 respectively were declared successful.

Hostels.

749. The Baroda Training College for Men has a hostel attached to it which is housed in two suitable rented buildings. The number of boarders was 142.

Excursions.

750. During the year, 17 students of the Third Year were sent in company with a member of the staff on a week's excursion. They went to Junagadh where they did sight-seeing to a certain extent besides visiting the famous temples of the Jains on mount Girnar. They also went to see the old temples of Somnath in Prabhas-Patan. The feature of the excursion was that two Antyaja students accompanied them. These so-called untouchables intermingled freely with the others. Government paid Rs. 180-4-7 towards the expenses of the trip.

751. The college has a Union and amongst its activities may be mentioned a Reading Room, a Debating Society and a Social Service League.

Training College Union.

752. The total expenditure on all the Training institutions for Primary School men-teachers amounted to Rs. 46,797 as against Rs. 53,522 last year.

Expenditure.

(g) FEMALE EDUCATION.

753. The total number of Girls' schools was 385 as against 382 of last year, and the number of girls learning in them was 32,318, as against 31,253 of the previous year. In addition to these, there were 35,066 girls studying in mixed schools, which added to those learning exclusively in Girls' schools, brought the total number of girls receiving Primary education up to 67,384 showing an increase of 2,969 which was an indication of slow but steady progress in the education of women.

Girls' Schools.

754. The Zanana class in Baroda had 67 pupils on the roll, as against 80 last year. Besides this, there was one aided Urdu Zanana class at Kathore in the Naosari division, and another unaided at Petlad. The best efforts of the department to induce grown up women to take advantage of such classes received very slow response.

Zanana classes.

755. Needle work, drawing, and embroidery were, as usual, taught to girls in the principal Girls' Schools, and cookery classes were attached to schools at Baroda, Patan, Petlad, Navsari and Amreli.

Provision of domestic subjects in the Girls' Schools.

756. The Training College for Women is located in a beautiful building near Sursagar. Mrs. Snehalata Pagar, A.M., who continued to work as Principal, was assisted by a Head Mistress, and a staff consisting of three Graduates, one Undergraduate, four trained teachers and three special

Training College for Women.

teachers for drawing, embroidery and needle work. A series of lectures on Hygiene, Maternity and Child-welfare was delivered under the auspices of the Maternity Legue, Baroda. In the annual examination, a scholar from the college won the prize.

College activities.

757. Among the college activities the Girl Guides' movement, Physical Culture, Badminton Club, Garba competitions, discussion of current topics and excursion trips to Mount Abu, may be noted. A large number of scholars took part in the Hind Vijaya Gymkhana Annual sports, out of whom 45 carried off the prizes though the competition was very keen. The scholars also took part in the Autumn Festival celebrated under the auspices of the Gujarati Sahitya Sabha when the first prize for elocution was won by a scholar of the college.

Number of women teachers.

758. The number of women under training, when the year closed, was 69, as against 76 in the last year, showing a slight decrease mainly due to the starting of a First Year class at Mehsana and an unaided class at Petlad. The total number of lady teachers was 340 during the year as against 313 in the last year, showing an increase of 27.

Hostel attached to the Women's College.

759. A beautiful building commanding a fine view of the Sursagar continued to be used as a hostel for the college scholars. It was supervised by Mrs. Khory, the Lady Superintendent. During the year, it had 41 boarders of the Training College as against 44 of last year. Some outsiders from the Maharani High School for Girls were also accommodated in the Boarding House at the request of the High School Principal. During the year, four grown up orphan girls were married to partners of their own choice, at the Boarding House in the presence of a distinguished assemblage of many leading ladies and gentlemen. The scholars residing in the Boarding House were taken on short trips by Mrs. Khory. They visited Ajwa, Dabka, Dabhoi and the sacred places on the river Narbada.

760. A training class for women originally started at Amreli and thence transferred to Mehsana continued to work under its Superintendent Miss Homawala. It had 30 pupils during the year.

Mehsana Training class for women.

761. Out of 69 women–teachers that appeared at the different examinations, 55 were successful, the percentage of passes being 79·7 as against 77·2 of last year. The scholars of the Third Year class were taken on an excursion to Mount Abu after the annual examination. Such excursions are very popular and result in widening their outlook on life.

Results of the Examinations.

762. Her Highness the Begum Sahiba of Bhopal, Her Highness the Begum Sahiba of Janjira and the wife of the Maharaja Kumar of Jhalwad, graced the college with their visit. Amongst other distinguished visitors may be mentioned the names of Sir Warden Chilcott, and the Editor of the United India and Indian States, Delhi. A number of American Tourists, the Superintendent of the Urdu Schools of Bombay, the Deputy Inspector of Rajkote and the Principal of Rajkote Training College for Women also visited the institution. They were all favourably impressed with the work and organisation of the institution.

Distinguished visitors.

763. The total expenditure on both the Training institutions for Women amounted to Rs. 21,671 as against Rs. 20,387 of last year.

Expenditure.

(h) Education of the Backward Classes.

764. Two hundred and nineteen schools were in existence for the education of the depressed classes whose population in the Raj according to the last Census figures amounted to 1,76,821. Of these, five were exclusively for girls. The total number of Antyaja children in these schools was 9,337 (9,072 boys and 265 girls) against 9,433 (9,193 boys and 240 girls) of last year, showing a slight decrease. Besides these, 4,599 Antyaja children were learning in the ordinary Gujarati Primary

Antyaja Schools.

Schools which brought the total number of such children receiving primary instruction to 13,936, equal to about eight per cent. of their total population. There were 170 boys learning English in the Antyaja Schools at Baroda, Patan, and Navsari. Besides these, there were six students studying in the Baroda High School and 2 in the Maharani Girls' High School. Government continued to give books and other school requisites free to all these children while a fairly decent number had boarding and lodging arrangements made for them at government expense in the Antyaja Boarding Houses. Scholarships of the aggregate value of Rs. 122 per mensem were awarded to Antyaja children in Primary Schools and ten scholarships of the aggregate value of Rs. 54 per mensem were awarded in the Secondary Schools. In the Training College at Baroda, nine Antyaja scholars were reading for the different courses along with other high caste Hindu scholars. The Antyaja Boarding Houses at Baroda, Patan, Navsari and Amreli had 45, 30, 30 and 28 boarders, respectively. Lodging, boarding, etc., were, as usual, provided free by government.

Sheth Jugal Kishore Birla donation.

765. For the administration of the donation of Rs. 15,000 given by Sheth Jugal Kishore Birla of Calcutta in the year 1919, a Committee of 3 members had been constituted. The committee with the donor's wishes continued to utilise the amount of interest accruing from the donation in giving prizes of the value of Rs. 200 to students passing with credit in the Geeta-Course, and another set of an equivalent amount to those who stood high in Essay-writing, and another Rs. 200 in giving suitable honoraria to teachers who read the Geeta.

Waghodia Boarding House.

766. A Boarding House for the backward classes was opened at Waghodia on the 14th April 1924. It had 48 students against 50 of the last year. 46 students appeared at the examination, out of which 36 were declared successful. The expenditure on this Boarding House was Rs. 4,422 nearly, against Rs. 2,376 of the last year.

767. There were five Boarding Schools for Dhanka boys at Songadh, Vyara, Mahuwa, Anaval, and Wankal. The Girls' Boarding School at Songadh established for the education of the forest tribes worked well and showed satisfactory progress during the year. The five Boys' Schools had 100, 86, 30, 35 and 35 boys on their rolls respectively, while the Boys' Schools at Songadh and Vyara had Model-Farms attached to them where the boarders got lessons in practical agriculture. The influence of these schools on the lives of these animistic people has so far been strikingly good. The schools make them good agriculturists and efficient teachers. In fact, they have been greatly helpful in ameliorating the condition of the Kaliparaj community. All possible measures are being taken to make them better men and useful members of a progressive community by opening further avenues of education for these people.

Education of forest tribes.

768. With a view to give these Dhanka boys the benefit of association with boys of advanced communities, the Vernacular Boys' School at Vyara and Mahuwa and the Girls' School at Songadh have been combined with those of the Boarding Schools. Similar arrangement was made in the two Boarding Houses started recently.

The combination of the Boarding School with the local Vernacular schools.

769. The total expenditure on the six Dhanka Boarding Schools amounted to Rs. 19,088 as against Rs. 19,354 last year, showing a slight decrease. The receipts from the sale of farm produce and other sundries amounted to Rs. 2,568 as against Rs. 3,647 of last year. The net average cost of educating each Dhanka boarder came to Rs. 57 as against Rs. 41 in the last year.

Expenditure.

770. Suitable provision for the education of Mahomedans also has been made. There were 124 Urdu Schools, of which 98 were Boys' Schools which were attended by 6,567 boys and 26 were

Urdu Schools.

Girls' Schools which were attended by 1,782 girls. Over and above these, 8,344 Moslem children attended the ordinary Gujarati schools. The total number of Mahomedan children receiving education in the State came to 16,693 giving a percentage of 10·3 against 10·4 of last year.

Education of Waghers at Dwarka.

771. The education of the Waghers of Okhamandal on lines similar to those adopted in the case of the Kaliparaj tribes of Songadh and Vyara was first undertaken in the month of November 1920 by starting a Wagher Boarding House at Dwarka. A marked improvement in their mode of life is noticeable. They are gradually bestirring to avail themselves of the benefits of education brought to their very doors by His Highness' government. During the year, there were 23 Wagher boys in the Boarding House against 25 last year. These boys attended the local Vernacular and English schools. It is gratifying to note that some of these boys have been showing good progress.

Expenditure.

772. The total expenditure of the Boarding House amounted to Rs. 3,909-1-8 as against Rs. 4,112-0-0 in the preceding year, showing a slight decrease.

(i) SPECIAL INSTITUTIONS.

The Orphanage at Amreli.

773. The orphanage at Amreli had 50 orphans, as against 61 in the preceding year. It also accommodated three juvenile offenders. In addition to primary instruction, which they received in the local Vernacular Schools, the orphans were taught weaving, dyeing, printing, tailoring and carpentry according to their aptitude. The total expenditure incurred on account of this orphanage came to Rs. 6,670 during the year.

The Orphanage at Baroda.

774. The Baroda Creche brought into being during the Influenza epidemic of 1918 continued to do its philanthropic work for the orphans in the Raj. It had 42 inmates, 31 boys and 11 girls, against 31 boys and 10 girls of the preceding year, showing an increase of one. It continued in charge of Mrs. Travers, as Matron.

775. The œsthetic side of education was not neglected during the year. There were 5 Music Schools, one each at Baroda, Dabhoi, Mehsana, Navsari and Amreli. They had altogether 842 students learning music. The Central School at Baroda known as "The School of Indian Music," had 241 students on the roll. The subject of Music continued to be taught in the Training colleges for Men and Women, in the Maharani High School for Girls and in the Baroda Middle school. The Music School at Dabhoi had been working well and efficiently. The total expenditure incurred on these schools during the year came to Rs. 17,712.

Music Schools.

776. There were during the year 5 Government, 2 Aided and 7 Unaided Sanskrit Schools in the State There were in them 435 students altogether. The special feature of the provision for Sanskrit learning is the institution known as the "Shravan Mas Dakshina Examination" which continues to attract candidates from far off places. With a view not to allow the springs of ancient traditional Sanskrit learning to go dry, His Highness' government has earmarked a sum of Rs. 5,000 annually for the purpose. 86 candidates appeared for the examination, out of whom 64 passed. A little modification in the original rules has been instrumental in attracting a large number of students from different parts of India. The total expenditure on the institution together with the Dakshina amount and honorarium to Examiners amounted to Rs. 4,934 as against Rs 4,861 in the preceding year.

Sanskrit Schools.

777. The schools for defectives at Baroda and Mehsana have shown satisfactory progress during the year. The total number attending them was 76 against 73 of the preceding year. Both these schools were under the management of teachers, specially trained for the purpose. The deaf-mutes were taught by the Lip Reading method, while the Braille system was followed in teaching the blind. The children of the former class were also taught drawing, wood-work and tailoring as well, while those of the latter the three R's. Besides these, to make life pleasant and cheerful for them, the teaching of music

Schools for defectives.

was also provided Boarding houses for the convenience of the children coming from the districts have been attached to both the schools. The Association of workers for the relief of the deaf-mutes which was started in Baroda in the year 1922 as a branch of the Ahmedabad Association for the Deaf-Mutes, worked vigorously during the year. As a result of the district demonstration tours, a sum of Rs. 2,100 was deposited in the Baroda Savings Bank, from the interest whereof the boarders were helped. The total expenditure incurred on these schools during the year, came to Rs. 12,413 as against Rs. 11,958 last year.

Kindergarten classes.

778. The number of Kindergarten classes in the State during the year was 10 as against 7 of last year, showing a slight increase. In some of these classes, arrangements are made to feed the children during school hours. In response to the increasing demand from the people, some more Kindergarten classes are being started. These classes were attended during the year by 1,082 children whose age varied between 4 and 6. Besides these, there were a few Kindergarten classes in the Taluka towns, that at Vaso being the most flourishing. The Kindergarten classes in general seem to grow in popularity and are able to command financial assistance from the public. Arrangements were made to supply qualified teachers to these classes in case a demand was made for them.

Jail school at Baroda.

779. The Jail school attached to the Baroda Central Jail for the benefit of the convicts had 13 pupils during the year, out of which 10 appeared and 6 passed their examinations.

Aided Primary Schools.

780. There were 24 Aided Primary Schools under private management during the year. The total amount of grants received by these schools came to Rs. 4,987 as against Rs. 6,517 in the preceding year.

Military Schools.

781. The seven schools attached to the different Regiments in the State for recruits continued to work satisfactorily, Of these, five were at Baroda, one at Dhari and one at Dwarka, having

altogether 316 pupils on their rolls. Of these, as many as 272 appeared at the annual examinations and 124 came out successful at the various examinations.

Physical Culture.

782. Gymnasium teachers were attached to most of the important Secondary and Primary Schools. The Physical culture work in the city has partly been placed under the guidance of the Scout Organisation and partly under that of the Gymnasium Inspector who was assisted by trained Gymnasium teachers. The scholars in the Training College for Women were taught by a lady teacher, trained under Miss Macdonald (now Mrs. A. Ashton), some time Directress of Physical Culture. In some of the Girls' schools physical instruction is imparted by women teachers trained under Miss Macdonald. The scholars in the Training College for Men continued to receive systematic training in gymnastics and games by a graduate teacher trained in Madras.

Moral and religious education.

783. Attempts were continued with some success to impart moral and religious instruction in the Primary and Secondary Schools. An hour in a week was set apart for this purpose in all secondary schools where teachers made use of the books published by the Moral Education League. In the Vernacular Primary Schools "Nitishikshana" and "Dharma-Varnana" were used by the teachers to help them in explaining to the classes the fundamental tenets of different religious faiths. During history and literature lessons some of the competent teachers indirectly created influences calculated to build the moral manhood of their pupils.

Encouragement to literature.

784. The Translation branch of the Vidyadhikari office continued to work under the supervision of the Vidyadhikari. Out of the interest of Rs. 2,00,000 endowed by His Highness the Maharaja Saheb for the enrichment of Vernacular literature, the work of preparation and publication of volumes in the two Series "*Shree Sayaji Sahitya Mala*" and

"*Shri Sayaji Balajnana Mala*" was pursued. The total number of volumes prepared upto the end of the year was 399, of which 157 (97 in the Sahitya Mala and 60 in the Balajnana Mala) bearing serial numbers and four not bearing serial numbers but financed from the interest of the fund were published, while the rest were either in the Press or ready for the Press or under preparation. During the year, 16 new volumes were published in both the Series, comprising about 2,100 pages or 134 Crown (8 Octavo Vol.) forms.

During the period of 8 years, since the inception of the Translation branch, 22 books in both the Series ran through a second edition, while the second edition of some other books was in the Press during the year. This showed that the Series was growing popular, on the whole, with the general public. It is gratifying to note that during the year, one book of the Sahitya Mala, viz., "Dalpatram" was prescribed as a text book in Gujarati by the University of Bombay for the School Leaving Certificate Examination.

(j) INSPECTION.

Inspection.

785. The Commissioner of Education toured extensively in the Baroda, Kadi, Navsari and Amreli districts, inspecting the teaching as well as the administrative work. The Divisional Educational Inspectors, the Inspectresses and the Deputy Educational Inspectors, also moved in their respective divisions each for the required number of days. The girls' schools were inspected by the Inspectresses and the Deputy Educational Inspectors, while the Urdu and Antyaja schools were inspected and examined by their special Inspectors.

(k) TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

The Technical Institute.

786. The Technical Institute popularly known as the "*Kala-Bhavan*" established in the year 1890 had for the first six years of its career been placed under the guidance and devoted care of the late Professor T. K. Gajjar, the well-known Chemist. For nearly 17 years Mr. C. H. Vora has been in charge of the Institution. He was assisted by a

well qualified staff. The institute continued its work in the same six branches of study as shown in the previous year. Of these, the first four were started from almost the beginning of the Institute, 35 years ago, whereas the Textile branch was added in 1897 and the School of Commerce was opened in 1906. The following table gives the number of students in each section:—

No.	Name of the Subjects.	Number of boys.	
		1923-24.	1924-25.
1	2	3	4
1	Art (Fine and Industrial)	76	72
2	Civil Engineering	87	81
3	Mechanical Engineering	115	124
4	Chemical Technology (Dyeing, Bleaching and Calico printing)	83	46
5	Textile Manufacturing	101	59
6	Commerce	26	22
	Total...	488	404

Analysis of students.

787. Out of the total of 404 students, more than half, viz. 207 were Baroda State students. Of these, 109 belonged to Baroda city and 98 to the districts, the number from Baroda, Kadi, Navsari and Amreli districts being 71, 7, 17 and 3 respectively. The remaining 197 came from outside the Baroda territories. Of these, 142 were from different parts and States of the Bombay Presidency. The rest coming from outside the Presidency including 9 from the Central India Agency, 16 from the Punjab, 11 from Bengal, 8 from the Central Provinces, 4 from the Madras Presidency, 2 from Berar, 1 from Goa, 2 from Rajputana, 1 from the United Provinces and 1 from far-off Assam.

788. At the First and Second Year Annual Examinations held by the Institute, 250 appeared from the first five Sections noted above. Of these, 181 passed. At the Final or Diploma Examinations, 96 appeared of whom 70 were declared successful in the respective branches. In the Bombay Boiler Act Mechanical Engineer's Examinations, 6 passed in the test for the Second Class Certificate and 1 in that for the Third Class Certificate as against 3 and 1 respectively in the last year. Three more students were successful in the Second Class Competency Examination held under the new Bombay Boiler Rules. In the Commercial Class, there were 34 entries from 16 students at the Commercial examinations held by the National Union of Teachers. Of these, 19 were declared successful. Also at the London Chamber of Commerce Examination there were six entries from two students. At the Art Examinations conducted on behalf of the Bombay Government by the Sir J. J. School of Art, Bombay, 35 appeared in Drawing, 16 in Architecture and 9 in Painting. Out of these, 22, 4 and 7 were successful in the respective branches. The Kalā-Bhavan has been recently recognised by the authorities of the City and Guilds of London Institute as a centre for their technological examinations which were held for the first time in Baroda in the year 1925. Out of 81 students of Kala-Bhavan who appeared at these examinations, 47 passed. The principal entries (counted separately by each subject) were in:—

Results of the Examinations.

(1) Dyeing of cotton, silk, and wool 29, and

(2) Plain and Fancy Weaving 33;

26 and 17 out of these numbers, passed in these branches respectively. Of the 19 who appeared in the various branches of Engineering and Photography, only 4 were successful.

789. A majority of suggestions contained in the reorganisation scheme recommended by Dr. Hay of the Indian Science Institute of Bangalore and sanctioned by His Highness the Maharaja Saheb, involving revision of the existing courses, introduction

Important events.

of fresh studies, purchase of new apparatus and machinery, and revision of the staff, were adopted during the year. The additions and alterations are likely to increase the efficiency of the Institute and exert a beneficial influence on technical education and thereby on the industrial conditions of the State.

Staff.

790. Professor C. M. Shroff and Mr. C. S. Patel both of the department of Chemical Technology, who had been deputed for further experience, the former to Europe and the latter to Bangalore, returned in October and resumed their duties in Kalabhavan. Mr. Shroff worked at the large Colour Works of Badische Aniline Company and of Messrs. Cassella in Germany. He also spent a few months at the British Empire Exhibition at Wembley, and paid visits to several Factories and Technical Institutions in Switzerland, Germany and England. Mr. Patel obtained training in Oil Technology at the Tata Institute, as well as worked in the Soap Factory of the Mysore government. Mr. M. L. Dutt, M.E., M.Sc. E.E. (University of Illinois U. S. A.), was appointed, Professor of Mechanical Engineering on a salary of Rs. 500. Mr. Dutt had formerly worked on the same post in Kalabhavan from 1916 to 1919 and he now returned to it with six years' further experience of varied work outside. Mr. B. B. Sarkar, M.Sc. (Calcutta), B.Sc. (Edinburgh), was appointed Professor of Electrical Engineering. As suggested by Mr. King during his inspection of Kalabhavan, government sanctioned for one year a post of Machine Drawing Instructor with a salary of Rs. 250 so as to improve that branch, and Mr. Kedar Nath Sharma, B.Sc. (Engineering) of Benares University, was accordingly appointed on this post.

Prizes and scholarships available in Kalabhavan.

791. The government grant for scholarships at the institute is Rs. 100, out of which stipends are given to the first two boys in each class. Besides these, there are two Shrimant Pilajirao Technical Scholarships, one of Rs. 12 each for the Baroda Prant and the Kadi

Prant, and six Prant Panchayat scholarships, two each of Rs. 7 for Baroda, Navsari and Kadi divisions which are awarded to students fulfilling the necessary conditions. The Professor T. K. Gajjar Memorial Scholarship of Rs. 25 p.m, established by Raj Ratna Sheth Naranbhai of Petlad is awarded to the best student in Chemical Technology. The Dewan Bahadur Dhamnaskar Memorial Scholarships of Rs. 4 each are awarded to the students in the Mechanical Engineering and in Chemical Technology. One Silver Medal worth Rs. 10 is awarded by rotation each year to the student who stands first in the final examination of the School of Art, Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Chemical Technology and Weaving Technology. Over and above these, 18 scholarships of total sum of Rs. 147 p.m. varying from Rs. 6 to Rs. 11 each had been awarded to Maratha students studying in this Institution from Shree Sayajirao Maratha Scholarship Fund. Prizes worth Rs. 200 were distributed by government in all branches of the Institute. Scholarships were also received from the following States for the students of their own Raj :—

One of Rs. 30 from Sawantwadi.

One of Rs. 15 from Dhrangadra.

One of Rs. 10 from Dhrangadra.

One of Rs. 20 from Dewas.

One of Rs. 15 from Bhavnagar.

Two of Rs. 13 each from Jamnagar.

One of Rs. 10 from Palitana.

One of Rs. 10 from Nandod.

In addition to these, some more scholarships were also received from private donations.

Nazarpaga Workshops

792. The workshops department besides supplying steam, mechanical power, and working material to the six Mechanical Shops, viz. Foundry, Smithy, Lathe-shops, etc. and the Carpentry, Weaving and Dyeing departments, also manufactured a large number of articles in cast-iron and other metal-work

and office furniture for schools, dispensaries and other departments of the State. The aggregate value of such manufactured articles during the current year came to Rs. 40,168-8-10 as against Rs. 48,721 last year. It had been recently ordered by government that the Kalabhavan Workshops should be remodelled so as to enable students to work out all the processes and produce finished articles instead of working on commercial lines with a view to make profit.

District Industrial Schools.

793. There were only two Industrial Schools—one at Amreli and the other at Navsari known as the Tata Hunnarshala which is conducted on the Grant-in-aid principle. Government having given a grant of Rs. 3,400, two more Industrial Schools were added during the year, one at Patan, and the other at Petlad. Primary education along with training in handicrafts, was imparted to students in these four Industrial Schools. The Industrial School at Amreli has been working very well. At the end of the year, the Amreli School had 224 students as against 235 last year. Out of them 116 belonged to the artisan classes. The Petlad and Patan Industrial Schools had 142 and 122 pupils on the rolls respectively, of which 34 and 33 respectively came from the artisan communities.

Tata Industrial School at Naosari.

794. In the Aided Industrial School started under the patronage of Mr. J. N. Tata at Navsari, Mechanical Engineering and Cabinet-making are taught in three years' courses. During the year, there were 87 students compared to 81 of last year. Out of these, 81 were studying Mechanical Engineering and 6 Cabinet making.

Results of the Hunnarshala at Navsari.

795. Of the 17 students sent up by the Hunnarshala for the Elementary and 9 for the Intermediate grade of Art Drawing Examination of Sir J. J, School of Art, Bombay, 10 and 5 were successful. One of the latter was awarded a prize for the best design in Nature Studies. During the

year, 18 students of the Hunnarshala (Mechanical Engineering Branch) having completed their three years' course ceased to attend the Hunnarshala, 8 of them appeared for the Third Class Mechanical Engineering Examination held at Bombay by the Board under the Bombay Boiler Act and 5 secured Certificates as Third Class Mechanical Engineers. One of them also appeared in the 2nd Class Boiler attendant's Examination and succeeded in getting the requisite certificate. Some of the Engineering students who had finished their course during the preceding years were filling their terms in Mills, etc., for further practical instruction as required by the rules in order to enable them to appear direct in the 2nd. Class Engineering Examination under the Bombay Boiler Act. During the year, 2 students of the Cabinet Class having completed their 3 years' course ceased to attend the Hunnarshala. They were both employed on good wages. The annual expenditure for the year amounted to Rs. 10,202-13-9 as against Rs. 9,825-3-9 of last year.

The Reformatory.

796. The Baroda Reformatory opened in the year 1913 under the Children's Courts Act continued to be under the charge of Mr. Paradkar, the Superintendent, subject to the control of the Kalabhavan Principal. It had 22 inmates as against 18 of last year. In addition to the primary course of study, the boys were taught carpentry and did a bit of gardening and farm work in the compound. The expenditure for the year was Rs. 4,017-11-8 as against 3,462-9-2 of last year.

Expenditure.

797 The expenditure of the Kalabhavan including the Reformatory amounted to Rs 1,14,331, while the income of fees, etc., amounted to Rs. 12,573. The expenditure on the Amreli, Petlad and Patan Industrial Schools amounted to Rs. 7,138, 2,785 and 3,279 respectively. Thus the total cost of technical education, including the annual expenditure of Rs. 3,380 on the Tata Industrial School at Navsari, reached Rs. 1,31,113 as against Rs. 1,19,335 of last year. The average net annual cost of educating one pupil at each of the five institutions came to Rs. 283, Rs. 32, Rs. 7, Rs. 27 and Rs. 41 respectively.

B. The Museum and the Picture Gallery.

Management.

798. The Museum and the Picture Gallery continued to be under the management and control of Mr. Ganguli, late of the Imperial Museum of Calcutta. He was assisted by a special staff appointed to preserve the collection in good order.

Progress of the year.

799. During the year, steady progress was made in each and every section of both the institutions. The work of labelling in the Museum was taken up in hand and was in progress during the year. Descriptive labels for some exhibits were printed and put up in glazed frames on stands against the cases, to enable visitors to get a good idea of the articles displayed. This method of labelling is altogether different from that generally adopted in other museums. These labels are instructive and contain fairly full description of the exhibits. It will take some time to complete the work of labelling the exhibits in all the sections, but when finished, it will have a great educative value.

Our Cinema Operator has prepared films illustrating several industries in the State. These when shown on the screen, are greatly appreciated by the public. Government have approved of and sanctioned the scheme for the Ethnological Court, in the Museum, submitted by the Curator for which exhibits are being collected.

The ground floor of the Picture Gallery was converted into a library.

800. The Museum and Picture Gallery possess a very good collection of books on Fine Arts, Science, etc., for the convenience of the students and visitors, who might like to refer to such books. A room on the ground floor of the Picture Gallery is being used as the Library. The Picture Gallery has an excellent collection of oriental and occidental pictures by famous artists

Visitors.

801. During the year, visitors to the Museum and the Picture Gallery other than students numbered 2,32,784 as against 2,34,767 last year, the slight decrease being due to the closing of the

institutions to the public for some months on account of repairs, annual cleaning, etc. Among visitors of rank and distinction, who graced the Museum with their presence, were Her Highness the Maharani Saheb, Her Highness the Maharani of Cooch-Bihar and Her Highness the Begum Sahiba of Bhopal. The American Tourists, some of whom were Directors of Museum in the United States of America and who happened to visit the Museum, very much appreciated the exhibits and their arrangement in the Museum. Sir W. Chilcott also expressed himself satisfied with what he saw at the Picture Gallery and the Museum.

Acquisition, etc.

802. During the year, in addition to a fairly regular supply of new specimens of Fine Art, Metal-ware, Porcelain, Textiles, Crystal-work, etc., a fine collection of unique and valuable specimens of Nepalese and Tibetan Art has been acquired.

Expenditure.

803. The total expenditure on account of the Museum and the Picture Gallery during the year was Rs. 85,325-9-3 as against Rs. 35,262-8-11 of last year. The increase was due to the acquisition of a valuable collection of Jewelled Tibetan Curios of about Rs. 50,000 as per orders of the Huzur.

C. Libraries.

Personnel.

804. The Library department was under the general direction of Mr. Newton M. Dutt as Curator of State Libraries. Mr. Motibhai N. Amin, B.A., was in charge of the Mofussil Section. Mr. B. Bhattacharya, M.A., Oriental Librarian and General Editor of the Gaekwar's Oriental Series. was in charge of the Sanskrit Section.

The Central Library.

Reading Room.

805. The Reading Room was opened for 365 days. One hundred and forty periodicals were subscribed for and sixty-two were received free.

806. 2,436 volumes were purchased, and 1,129 were acquired as gift. The greater portion of the Library of the Comparative Religion Seminar consisting of 484 volumes except books relating to Hinduism and Mahomedanism was transferred from the College to the Central Library. They formed a valuable addition to the stock. The total stock at the close of the year was 1,05,340. The Travelling Library had a collection of 18,633 over and above this stock.

Acquisition and stock.

807. The number of registered borrowers was 3,642 consisting of 1,892 Gujaratis including the Parsees, Mahomedans and the rest being Deccanis and other non-Gujaratis including 20 Bengalis, 6 Madrasis and 7 Jews. Twenty-nine per cent of these were government servants, forty-six per cent students, and twenty-five per cent others.

Readers.

808. The total circulation of books came to 83,229 consisting of 30,213 English, 24,378 Gujarati, 23,481 Marathi and 5,157 Sanskrit, Hindi and Urdu books, during 274 days during which the lending Library was open. This worked out a daily average of 303 volumes.

Circulation.

Other Libraries.

809. The Mahila Library was located in a large room opposite the Central Library. This Section has been steadily growing and becoming more and more popular. 10,012 books were circulated in the Ladies' Library and 22,166 children attended the Children's Room during the year.

Ladies' and children's Section.

810. The Sanskrit Section had 31 manuscripts on loan and borrowed 11 more during the year and seven important manuscripts out of those borrowed were copied out on the photostat purchased for the purpose. Of these, 10 were returned, 1 was still with the Editor, 26 were in the Library and 5 were accessioned as the present addresses of the owners could not be found. The total circulation of Sanskrit books was 2,014. There were 5,804 printed books and 13,134 manuscripts. 90 books were purchased and 126 were transferred from the Sayaji Library collection.

Sanskrit Section.

811. Two books, viz., Samarangana, Volume I, and Kavya Mimamsa were completed and published during the year. In all, 25 volumes had appeared in the series and 12 were in the Press.

Gaekwar's Oriental Series.

812. At the close of the year, there were 43 Town and Prant Libraries, all of which have been located in buildings of their own. These Libraries had in aggregate stock of 1,83,687 volumes showing an increase of 11,732 and circulated 1,52,471 books amongst their 16,987 readers as against 1,50,919 books amongst 17,304 readers during the past year. The total number of Village Libraries during the year was 618—10 having been added during the year. Forty-one Village Libraries had their own buildings. The Village Libraries had an aggregate stock of 1,94,802 volumes and circulated 69,587 of them amongst 29,573 readers. There were during the year also 87 Reading Rooms in the State. The Assistant Curator toured for 49 days during the year and visited 12 Town Libraries and 10 Village Libraries. The Village Libraries as ususal were also inspected by the Inspecting Officers of the Education department.

District Libraries.

813. 324 volumes were added to the stock of the Travelling Libraries during the year, bringing up the total stock to 18,633 volumes. 13,396 books in 418 boxes were circulated in 123 mofussil centres amongst 5,715 readers.

Travelling Libraries.

814 The Cinema Operator continued his tours in the districts as usual and gave 62 Cinema shows to the people of several towns and villages which were attended by 50,293 people.

Visual Instruction Branch.

815. A new feature of the year with regard to the Library movement was that some local enthusiastic men and energetic voluntary workers in the State held meetings of the Librarians and Secretaries of the village and town Libraries in Petlad,

Important events.

Waghodia, Dehgam, Kadi and Kalol, to discuss questions regarding the management of Libraries and if possible to suggest remedies for removing the difficulties. A training class was conducted for a fortnight in the Central Library by Messrs. Amin and Diwanji where practical training in accessioning, classification and cataloguing was given to 12 Librarians.

The Taluka Library Associations called "*Pustakalay Mandals*" which have been recently started at Waghodia and Petlad with a view to co-operate with the department in giving better facilities for the Libraries and Reading Rooms in their Talukas are reported to have been doing useful work. Arrangements for periodical visits of the Village Libraries by Volunteers have been made by some of these Associations.

A striking feature of the Library movement is the organisation of the Libraries' Co-operative Society, Ltd., with a capital of Rs. 50,000 divided into 2,000 Shares of Rs. 25 each. The main object of this Mandal is to give an impetus to the Library movement of the whole of Gujarat in general and of the Baroda State in particular by securing facilities—

(1) for purchasing books and periodicals at special concession rates,

(2) publishing and supplying at moderate rates forms, posters, leaflets, periodicals, books, card catalogues, etc., to the Libraries in the Province of Gujarat.

The Gandevi Public Library celebrated its Diamond Jubilee when a Library Exhibition under the Presidentship of the Dewan was held. His speech on the occasion was full of suggestions for the better working of the Libraries and gave great impetus to those working in the cause.

The Gandevi Library workers also invited a Conference of persons interested in the Library movement under the Presidentship of Mr. Matubhai H. Kantawala, M.A., a leading citizen and Editor of "Sahitya" a local Vernacular monthly.

The conference was a great success. It was instrumental in bringing about a better understanding between the Library workers and the departmental authorities regarding the Library policy.

Messrs. Bhattacharya, Shrigondekar and Rangaswami of the Library staff represented the State at the Third Oriental Conference held at Madras in December 1924.

The Baroda Central Library being a unique institution of its kind, its reputation in and out of India attracted frequently eminent persons to visit the Library. Numerous requests for information from various institutions and individuals all over the country were received during the year and appreciative references to the Library were made on several occasions.

Expenditure.

816. The expenditure of the Library branch of the department amounted to Rs. 89,571-11-4 as against Rs. 77,588-10-6 last year.

D. Press Report.

Control.

817. The Press Report branch remained under the direction and control of the Sar Suba, who was assisted in this work by Mr. R. R. Pawar.

The number of Printing Presses.

818. The number of Printing Presses at the beginning of the year was 46, 7 new Presses were opened, and 2 were closed owing to the change in the name thereof. Thus at the end of the year there were 51 Presses working.

Output of the Press.

819. The total output of the Press was 10 weeklies, 37 periodicals and 459 books including pamphlets, as against 8 weeklies, 29 periodicals and 229 books for the preceding year.

Number of Reports.

820. The number of weekly reports issued in respect of journals was 61, while that of the monthly reports regarding books, pamphlets and periodicals was 18. The system of Press Cuttings was continued, and the departments were kept in-

formed of comments, criticisms, and suggestions of the Press relating to them through the medium of cuttings from News-papers. The number of such cuttings during the year was 198: The corresponding figures for the previous year were 40, 9 and 100 respectively.

821. Altogether 457 topics were reported from the local Press, which may be divided as follows:-

Topics reported.

Political ...	...204	Municipal...	...30	Agriculture	... 3
Administrative	... 49	Railway ...	...11	Religious ...	... 2
Legislative	... 10	Panchayat...	... 9	Commerce ...	... 2
Revenue ...	... 47	Medical ...	... 5	Registration	... 1
Abkari ...	... 14	Judicial ...	... 7	Miscellaneous	...41
Educational	... 18	Police ...	... 4		

Principal Foreign News-papers were also scrutinized and 42 topics mostly relating to the State Administration, were reported. The number of topics reported from the local as well as Foreign Press during last year were 323 and 8 respectively.

822. The number of Periodicals published till the end of the year was 37, which may be classified as follows :—

Periodicals : their nature and contents.

General Literature..	2	Physical Culture ...	2	Philosophy	... 1
Education ...	... 1	Communal	...12	Panchayat...	... 1
Religion ...	... 3	Legal ...	... 4	Miscellaneous	...11

The strength of the communal Magazines indicates a general awakening among the people, and a wide-spread desire for education and social reform. The majority of the periodicals are of a fairly high order, and command a large circulation.

823. There were 459 books and pamphlets reported during the year, which may be divided as follows :—

Books : their number and quality.

According to Language.

English ...	... 28	Hindi-Gujarati	... 5	Eng.-Marathi ...	1
Eng.-Gujarati	... 6	Hindi-Sanskrit	... 1	Prakrit-Marathi ...	1
Gujarati ...	...349	Hindi-Urdu	... 1	Arabic-Gujarati ...	1
Sanskrit-Guj.	... 7	Urdu ...	... 6	Sanskrit	4
Sanskrit-Eng.	... 3	Urdu-Gujarati	... 1	Sanskrit-Marathi...	1
Hindi ...	... 25	Marathi ...	...18	Guj.-Urdu-Eng. Hindi and Sans.	1

According to Subject.

Politics ...	... 5	Ethics ...	... 5	Geography	... 2
Religion ...	... 49	Poetry ...	... 69	Agriculture	... 1
Philosophy	... 3	Biography	... 14	Mathematics	... 7
Logic ...	.. 1	Novel ...	... 9	Physical Culture...	8
Literature	... 4	Drama ...	... 36	Science ...	... 21
History ...	... 8	Communal	... 15	Miscellaneous	...127
Education	... 72	Social ...	... 3		

The general quality of the books, on the whole, continued to be ordinary. Among the few good books published were those that appeared under the auspices of the Education department.

General tone of the Press.

824. The general tone of the local Press was, on the whole, loyal, both to the Baroda as well as the British government, though it is evident that the influence on the local journalism of the Indian Nationalist Press is becoming more marked day by day.

Punitive measures adopted.

825. During the year, no book was proscribed. The proprietor of the Nava Gujarat weekly, and the Nava Gujarat Printing Press, Baroda, published an article, criticizing the Chamber of Princes, for which he was called in by the District Magistrate, whereupon he gave the explanation in writing and apologised for publishing such an article.

New Press Act.

826. The New Baroda Press and Registration of Books Act based on more liberal lines came into force from April 1925, having repealed the Old Press Act of Samvat 1968.

CHAPTER IX.

MEDICAL RELIEF AND VITAL STATISTICS.

A. Medical Relief.

(a) PRELIMINARY DETAILS.

Personnel.

827. Dr. Jivraj N. Mehta, M.D., M.R.C.P., &c , held the charge of the department during the year from 1st August 1924 to 31st January 1925 (excepting the short period he was on leave when the charge remained with Dr. R. N. Jadhav, the Deputy Chief Medical Officer). Dr. Jivraj N. Mehta then proceeded on leave at the end of which he was allowed to resign his service from the 6th of May 1925. Dr. R. N. Jadhav was appointed from 1st February 1925, as acting Chief Medical Officer until Dr. R. B. Chandrachud, M.B., F.R.C.S., took charge of the department from him on the 14th of March 1925. Dr. R. N. Jadhav worked as Deputy Chief Medical Officer almost throughout the year.

Extension.

828. Dr. R. N. Jadhav was granted a further extension of service till the 9th of September 1925.

Resignation.

829. Dr. R. R. Chaubal's resignation was accepted by His Highness' government.

Leave.

830. Dr. Miss Mayadas was granted 6 months' combined leave and from 11-4-1925 Dr. Miss J. T. Khandwalla was appointed in her stead.

Appointment of the House Physician.

831. Dr. K. N. Kulshreshth was appointed as House Physician on Rs. 300 p.m. from 1-1-1925.

Inspection.

832. During the year, 44 Medical Institutions were inspected against 48 in the preceding year and 23 in the year 1922-23.

833. During the year, a 4th class dispensary at Tavdi in the Navsari district, was taken over from Mr. M. R. Patel of Tavdi, under our direct management from 1st February 1925, with certain conditions. The Dabhoi Railway dispensary which was hitherto continued as a temporary measure, was made permanent during the year. The number of the Medical Institutions in the State including the hospitals and dispensaries of all denominations has now increased to 86. Calculating the ratio existing between the number of Medical Institutions and the population of the whole Raj, it now stands at one Institution to 24,493 souls of the population against 25,017 in the preceding year.

Number of Medical Institutions.

834. The total expenditure of the department during the year was Rs. 6,41,195 against Rs. 5,75,735-14-6 in the previous year and Rs. 5,77,755-2-5 in the year 1922-23. The causes of increase in expenditure are mainly :—

Expenditure.

1. The leave-pay of Dr. Jivraj N. Mehta.
2. The opening of the post of the House Physician.
3. The increase of the post of the Female S. A. Surgeon on the staff of the State General Hospital.
4. The opening of the Countess of Dufferin Wards.

835. The total income realised from various sources was Rs. 1,11,107 against Rs. 47,285-0-4 in the previous year and against Rs. 74,725-2-8 in the year 1922-23.

The total income realised.

The causes of increase in receipt are mainly due to—

1. the contribution on account of the expenditure after the Becharaji dispensary and some other Medical institutions in the Kadi district for the two years 1922-23 and 1923-24 paid from the Devasthan General Fund simultaneously in the year 1924-25.
2. Increase in the fees realised by the admission of paying patients in the Paying Patients' Wards at the State General Hospital.

3. The adjustment of a large amount of nearly Rs. 32,000 (thirty-two thousand) made by the Khangi department on account of the charges of Medicines, Doctors' fees, &c., incurred in His Highness' 14th Europe trip.

Fees from prescriptions and paying patients.

836. The prescription charges realised Rs. 8,313-5-11 against Rs. 8,366-1-2 in the preceding year and Rs. 5,915-0-0 in the year 1922-23.

Poor box.

837. The amount of Rs. 3,846-5-9 was realised from the Poor Box collection in the various Medical institutions during the year, the principal amounts realised being :—

Rs. a. p.		
1,321-12-6	at	the State General Hospital.
521- 3-0	,,	Dharmaj Dispensary.
317-11-0	,,	Navsari Civil Hospital.
228- 6-9	,,	Anasuya Leper Asylum.
187- 5-0	,,	Jamnabai Dispensary.
172-10-0	,,	Kadi Civil Hospital.
118- 8-0	,,	Pattan Civil Hospital.
118- 0-6	,,	Amreli Civil Hospital.
102-10-3	,,	Sojitra Dispensary.
100- 8-3	,,	Pattan Maternity Home.

Gifts in other forms.

838. At several other institutions, charitable gifts in the shape of medicines and instruments were thankfully received from the Local Boards.

Contribution.

839. The Khangi and Military departments contributed, as usual, Rs. 44,103 and Rs. 19,105 towards the maintenance of the Palace Dispensary and Military Medical Institutions respectively. The Beyt Devasthan Funds contributed Rs. 2,289 towards the maintenance of the Beyt dispensary, whilst the Devasthan General Funds contributed Rs. 12,000 towards the maintenance of the Becharaji dispensary and some other Medical Institutions in the Kadi district.

STATISTICS OF PATIENTS.

840. The total number of patients treated during the year was 6,01,537 (2,47,025 men, 1,22,265 women and 2,32,247 children) against 5,64,966 (2,28,714 men, 1,20,079 women and 2,16,173 children) in the preceding year. Out of these, 5,94,423 were Out-door patients and 7,114 In-door patients with an average daily attendance of 6,711·81 in the case of the former and 426·926 of the latter against 6,665·55 and 414·784 respectively in the preceding year. Of the In-patients, 4,399 were discharged cured, 1,947 relieved or discharged otherwise, 295 died and 395 remained under treatment at the end of the year. The percentage of deaths amongst the In-patients was 4·1 against 4·2 in the preceding year and 3·6 in the year 1922-23.

The number of patients treated and cured.

841. Of the total number of patients treated, 4,77,390 were Hindoos, 89,790 Mohamedans, 13,070 Parsees and 21,287 belonging to other religions.

Patients treated according to castes.

OPERATIONS.

842. During the year, 33,681 Surgical Operations were performed on 33,316 persons with a mortality of 0·1 against 33,367 with a mortality of 0·08 in the preceding year. The mean number of Surgical Operations performed during the triennium ending 1924-25 was 32,692 against 32,997 in the preceding year. The average number of persons operated on during the triennial period of 1922-1925 was 32,499 with a mortality of 0·09 as compared to a mortality of 0·09 amongst persons operated on during 1919-1922.

Surgical Operations.

NATURE OF OPERATIONS.

843. The removal of Tumours and Cysts accounted for 145 operations with a mortality of 2 against 133 with no deaths in the preceding year and 114 with 1 death in the year 1922-23.

Tumours and Cysts.

844. Amputations accounted for 70 operations with 6 deaths against 87 with 4 deaths in the preceding year and 81 with 3 deaths in the year 1922-23.

Amputations.

845. Operations on the Eye and its appendages numbered 1,081, of which 151 were for the removal of Cataract as compared with 826 including 126 for Cataract extraction in the precednig year and 1,067 of which 340 for Cataract in the year 1922-23.

Operations on the eye.

846. Vesical Calculi were removed by Litholaplaxy in 11 cases with no death against 18 with no deaths in the preceding year and 16 with no death in the year 1922-23.

Vesical Calculi.

847. Suprapubic Cystotomy and Lithotomy were resorted to in 6 cases with no death and 4 cases with 1 death respectively against 4 cases with 1 death and 6 cases with no death respectively in the preceding year and 4 cases with 1 death in the year 1922-23.

Suprapubic Cystotomy and Lithotomy.

848. Abdominal section for diseases other than those peculiar to women was resorted to in 11 cases with 3 deaths against 9 cases with 4 deaths in the preceding year and 13 cases with 6 deaths in the year 1922-23. Abdominal operations for diseases peculiar to women were performed in 19 cases with 3 deaths against 9 cases with no death in the preceding year and on 14 cases with 3 deaths in the year 1922-23.

Abdominal operations.

849. Operations for the Radical cure of Hernia numbered 23 with 2 deaths (including 9 cases of Strangulated Hernia with 2 deaths) against 22 cases with no death (including 4 cases of Strangulated Hernia with no death) in the preceding year and 23 cases with 5 deaths (including 6 cases of Strangulated Hernia with 1 death) in the year 1922-23.

Operations of Hernia.

850. Operations for Abscess of Liver were resorted to in 9 cases with 1 death against 3 cases with 2 deaths in the preceding year and 7 cases with 4 deaths in the year 1922-23.

Liver Abscess.

851. Different kinds of Obstetric operations were performed on 93 cases with 3 deaths against 122 cases with 5 deaths in the preceding year and on 139 cases with 3 deaths in the year 1922-23.

Obstetric operations.

852. Cæsarian Section was performed in 4 cases with 3 deaths against 2 cases with 1 death in the preceding year and against 4 cases with no death in the year 1922-23.

Cæsarian Section.

853. Medico-Electric operation was performed in 1 case with no death.

Medico-Electric Operation.

PREVAILING DISEASES.

854. The most common diseases for which patients sought medical treatment at the various hospitals and dispensaries in the State during the year are tabulated in the form below:—

Prevailing diseases.

Name of diseases.	1924-25.	1923-24.
Malarial Fevers	1,20,137	1,05,116
Diseases of the Skin	34,660	46,616
„ „ Eye	75,289	71,776
„ „ Ear	35,631	30,528
„ „ Nose	2,914	3,069
„ throat and Respiratory system ...	31,211	30,414
Injuries	20,834	18,766
Diseases of the nervous system ...	14,460	14,601
Diseases of the Intestinal Worms. ...	8,719	8,231
Dyspepsia	19,246	16,866
Rheumatic Affections	12,263	12,490
Diarrhœia	13,392	11,626
Dysentery	8,624	8,291
Venereal diseases	5,616	4,947
Tubercular diseases	1,785	1,639

(b) The State General Hospital.

Personnel.

855. Dr. Jivraj N. Mehta held the charge as Principal Medical Officer upto 31st January 1925 when he proceeded on leave prior to resignation. Dr. R. B. Chandrachud, M.B., F.R.C.S. (London), took charge of the post which he held till the end of the year.

House Surgeon.

856. Dr. Tapidas M. Doctor worked as House Surgeon upto 19–3–1925 when he was transferred to the Military department. Dr. L. S. Salunke was appointed as House Surgeon from 1–3–1925 and held the charge of the post till the end of the year.

Bacteriologist and Pathologist.

857. Dr. Pranlal M. Nanavati worked as the State Bacteriologist and Pathologist throughout the year.

Lady Resident Medical officer.

858. Dr. Miss Mayadas worked as Lady Resident Medical Officer upto 22–3–25 when she went on leave to England. Dr. Miss J. T. Khandwalla was appointed to act on the post from 11–4–1925 and held the charge till the end of the year.

Radiologist.

859. Dr. V. M. Bhatt continued to work as the Radiologist throughout the year.

General Duty Medical officer.

860. Dr. G. G. Ambegaoker worked as the General duty Medical Officer at the Dabhoi dispensary.

House Physician.

861. The post of House Physician was created from 1–7–1924 and Dr. Kedarnath Kulshresth held the charge of the post till the end of the year.

Average attendance of patients.

862. The average daily attendance of In–door and Out–door patients was 183·6 and 374·8 against 172·5 and 401·3 in the preceding year and 159·1 and 429·6 respectively in the year 1922-23.

863. During the year, 1,219 operations, including 421 selected major operations, were performed against 1,162 including 380 selected major operations in the preceding year and 1,367 including 770 selected major operations in the year 1922-23.

Selected operations.

SHETH HIMATLAL SHIVLAL MATERNITY WARD.

864. During the year, there were 195 cases of delivery as against 208 cases in 1923-24, and 185 in 1922-23. Of these, 120 cases were normal, full term deliveries, as against 141 in 1923-24 and 116 in 1922-23. Of the 120 cases of normal labour, in 117 cases babies were born alive; in the three cases of normal labour in which the babies were still-born, the causes of death were relapsing fever, malarial fever and syphilis in the mother respectively. There was no maternal mortality in the normal cases.

Himatlal Maternity Ward.

865. Of the 195 cases admitted, 182 or 94 p.c. were discharged in good condition and 13 died-6 from diseases not related to pregnancy or labour, 1 of Eclampsia, 2 after Cæsarian section, 3 from Placenta Prævia, 1 a neglected shoulder presentation case. Of the 3 cases of Placenta Prævia, two had had labours at home for 4 and 8 days respectively and were admitted in one case, 2 hours and in the other case 4 hours before death. The transverse presentation case that died was admitted after a prolonged labour at home, with the uterus in a state of tonic contraction which ruptured during Version. These cases emphasise the importance and necessity of the education of the public so that cases may be brought in time.

The cases and their results.

866. During the year, 46 Obstetric operations were performed as against 22 in the year 1923-24 and 22 in 1922-23.

Details of Obstetric Operations.

The details of the operations are as follows :—

Cæsarian Section	4
Decapitations	2
Perforation of the after coming head ...	1
Craniotomies	3

Versions	.. ..	11
Forceps	... ...	12
Perforation of the Hydro-cephalic head	...	1
Rupture of membranes of Hydranics	...	4
Extraction of fœtus in incomplete abortions		5
Extraction of carneous mole	... ...	1
Extraction of retained placenta	... ...	2
Total	...	46

Mortality after operation.

867. With the exception of two cases of Placenta Prævia, and one case of neglected shoulder presentation which were brought to the hospital too late for any hope of recovery, the only mortality resulting from operations was in the case of Cæsarian Sections

High infant mortality.

868. Infant mortality in the other obstetric operations was high, due to the fact that the cases were brought too late and in many cases, the fœtus was already dead on admission.

The only operative cases, besides Cæsarian Sections, in which good fœtal results could be expected are Forceps cases. Of the 12 cases of Forceps application, the fœtus was already dead before the application of Forceps in three cases. In the remaining 9 cases, babies were born alive and were discharged in good condition.

During the year, there were 2 cases of Antepartum Eclampsia and 2 cases of post-partum Eclampsia In the ante-partum cases, both the mothers and babies were discharged in good condition. Of the post-partum cases, one was admitted after delivery at home and was discharged cured.. The other case developed Eclampsia after a premature delivery at the hospital, and died. A slightly modified Rotunda method of treatment is being followed and the results are very gratifying.

X--RAY TREATMENT.

Number of patients treated.

869. During the year, the total number of patients, both Out-door and In-door, treated at the X-ray department was 2,848, out of which 2,304 were Out-patients and 544 were In-patients against

3,505, out of which 2,466 were Out-patients and 1,039 were In-patients in the previous year and 2,934 out of which 2,339 were Out-patients and 595 were In-patients in the year 1922--23.

The following table shows the various treatments given at the X-Ray department in connection with the hospital :—

Name of treatment.	1924-25.	1923-24.
Skiagrams	531	668
Screen Examinations	123	749
X-Ray Exposure	358	896
Electro-therapy	1,324	1,251
Bismuth-meal Examination ...	34	39
Radium Exposure	42	2
Zander Exercises	71	...
Hand-massage	283	...
Ultra-violet rays exposure ...	107	...
Surgical Diathermy	1	...
Judicial cases examined	48	45
Total proceeds ...	Rs. 3,800-9-8	Rs. 2,825

870. 5,310 specimens of Pathological interest and of various other kinds were examined at the Chemical and Bacteriological Laboratory against 5,548 in the preceding year and 2,877 in the year 1922-23.

Bacteriology.

871. The net expenditure on the upkeep of the institutions at the State General Hospital, excluding the amount spent on medicines and instruments, amounted to Rs. 2,09,205-5-5 against Rs. 1,57,573-4-7 in the preceding year and Rs. 1,61,578-3-4 in the year 1922-23.

Expenditure.

(c) LUNATIC ASYLUM.

872. The total number of lunatics at the Asylum during the year was 105 against 120 in the preceding year and 144 in 1922–23. Out of these treated, 23 were discharged cured, 13 relieved or discharged otherwise at the request of the guardians or relations, 7 absented, 10 died and 52 remained under treatment at the end of the year.

Number of lunatics.

873. The total expenditure in connection with the institution, excluding the cost of medicines and instruments, amounted to Rs. 12,549–1–8 against Rs. 11,152–15–11 in the preceding year and Rs. 12,691–1–9 in the year 1922–23.

Expenditure.

(d) LEPER ASYLUM.

874. The number of lepers treated at the Asylum during the year was 114 against 131 in the preceding year and 128 in the year 1922–23. Out of 114 treated, 2 are cured, 33 absconded, 15 died and 64 remained under treatment at the end of the year. Out of the total number remaining under treatment, 51 are suffering from the anæsthetic form and 13 from the mixed form. The number of Out-door patients besides the inmates of the Asylum treated during the year was 2,913 against 2,552 in the preceding year and against 1,954 in the year 1922–23.

Number of lepers treated.

875. The total number of intravenous injections given during the year was 2,369 against 2,461 in the previous year and against 1,806 in the year 1922–23.

Total number of intravenous injections.

876. The total expenditure on the Leper Asylum during the year was Rs. 11,875–10–0 against Rs. 11,142-12-7 in the previous year and against Rs. 11,834–6–10 in the year 1922–23.

Expenditure.

(e) CHEMICAL LABORATORY.

877. Dr. V. M. Bhatt continued to hold the charge of the Chemical Laboratory throughout the year except for one month when he was sent to Bombay on duty to see the practical working of the

Charge.

Zander apparatus, etc., installed at Messrs. N. Powell's and to receive training at their establishment as to the therapeutic uses of the different kinds of apparatus available at our institution here in the State General Hospital.

Medico-legal cases for analysis.

878. Medico-legal cases involving an analysis of 321 articles of different kinds were investigated during the year against 108 in the previous year and 120 in the year 1922-23. Besides these, 16 miscellaneous (petrolium, blood, bleaching powder, etc.) cases were investigated against 12 in the previous year and 3 in the year 1922-23. Out of 45 cases of suspected poisoning, which were investigated during the year, poison was actually detected in 23 cases, opium being the most common drug found administered as an agent of destruction of human life, amongst the various kinds of poisons detected during analysis.

Serological specimens.

879. 7 cases of suspected human blood were sent to the Imperial Serologist at Calcutta who detected human blood in all cases referred to him.

Water samples.

880. 69 samples of drinking water were examined against 47 in the preceding year and against 55 in the year 1922-23.

Expenditure.

881. The total expenditure on the maintenance of the Chemical Laboratory amounted to Rs. 5,787-7-4 against Rs. 5,665-3-9 in the preceding year and against Rs. 5,370-10-4 in the year 1922--23.

(f) Medical Stores.

Medical Store-keeper.

882. During the year, the duties of the Medical Store-keeper were conducted successively by Drs. L. S. Salunke, V. C. Dholakia and P. N. Shah.

Expenditure on purchase of drugs.

883. The amount of expenditure during the year on the purchase of medicines, instruments and necessaries, etc., was Rs. 1,57,336-8-6 against Rs. 1,47,933-3-3 in the previous year and Rs. 1,90,231-1-4 in the year 1922-23.

(g) The Central Jail Hospital.

884. Dr. C. R. Mankar continued to perform the dual function of the Jail Superintendent as well as of the Jail Medical Officer throughout the year.

Charge.

885. The total number of patients treated at the Jail Hospital during the year was 713 against 539 in the previous year and against 672 in the year 1922-23 Of the total treated, 628 were discharged cured, 53 relieved, 6 died, 2 absconded and 24 remained under treatment at the end of the year.

Number of patients treated.

886. During the year, 6 deaths were recorded against 19 in the previous year and 21 in the year 1922–23, showing a gradual improvement in the mortality of the Jail, from year to year owing to greater attention paid to the sanitation and general hygienic conditions at the Jail. Out of the 6 deaths, 1 died of pneumonia, 1 of scrofula, 1 of T. B. in lungs, 2 by dysentery and 1 by malignant fever. The incidence of death-rate per mille of average Jail population (706) works out at 9·6 as against 24·15 in the previous year and against 28·3 in the year 1922–23.

Total mortality and its comparison.

887. 404 surgical operations were performed during the year including 32 major operations against 554 in the previous year and against 298 in the year 1922–23.

Surgical operations.

(h) The Dnyanbai Maternity Hospital, Pattan.

888. Lady S. A. S. Mrs. Yamunabai Marathe held the charge of the hospital from 1–8–24 to 3–10–24 when she handed it over to Dr. Miss D. H. Bana who retained it from 4-10-1924 to 31-7-1925.

Personnel.

889. The total number of patients treated at the Dnyanbai Maternity Hospital during the year was 7,662 (121 In-door and 7,541 Out-door) against 5,411 (114 In–door and 5,297 Out–door) in the previous year and against 4,324 (69 In-door and 4,255 Out–door) in the year 1922–23.

Number of patients treated.

890. 146 surgical operations were performed during the year against 483 in the previous year and against 388 in the year 1922–23.

Surgical operations.

891. The total expenditure incurred in connection with the institution amounted to Rs. 6,606-6-0 against Rs. 6,084–12–3 in the previous year and against Rs. 5,477-9-7 in the year 1922-23.

Expenditure.

(i) FEMALE MEDICAL RELIEF.

(1) *In the Baroda City.*

892. In addition to the two City Midwives, there is a third one attached to the Jamnabai dispensary who attends labour cases in the city. The total number of labour cases attended to by the City Midwives was 184 against 202 in the previous year and against 142 in the year 1922–23.

Number of labour cases attended by the City Mid–wives.

893. The Maternity Home, located on the upper floor of the Jamnabai dispensary, has been the means of offering relief to 240 parturient females in the year, against 259 in the previous year and against 237 in the year 1922-23. Out of the 257 In–patients treated at the Jamnabai Maternity Home, 197 were discharged cured, 40 relieved, 7 absented or otherwise, 1 died and 12 remained under treatment at the end of the year.

Number of patients treated at the Maternity Home.

894. The expenditure incurred on account of the maintenance of establishment of the City Midwives was Rs. 1,594–2–2 against Rs. 1,556–2–4 in the previous year and against Rs. 1,415-13-0 in the year 1922-23.

Expenditure.

(2) *In the District.*

895. The number of District Midwives was 16 during the year against 12 in the preceding year and 17 in the year 1922-23.

Number of District Midwives.

896. The number of labour cases conducted by the District Midwives was 258 against 219 in the preceding year and 167 in the year 1922–23.

Number of labour cases conducted by the Midwives.

(j) Ambulance, Nursing, Home Hygiene & Sanitation.

Lectures and Examinations.

897. A series of lectures on Ambulance, Nursing, Home-Hygiene and Sanitation were delivered by different Medical Officers and Sub Assistant Surgeons at different places throughout the State, and examinations were held at different centres in different subjects as usual. In all, 34 candidates passed the examinations in different subjects as compared with 101 in the preceding year and 181 in the year 1922-23.

(k) Epidemics.

Cholera.

Number of Cholera cases.

898. The total number of cholera cases that occurred during the year was 3 against 42 in the preceding year and 1 in the year 1922-23.

Plague.

Number of Plague cases.

899. Plague cases reported off and on for different districts of the Raj during the year and compared with the two preceding years are shown as below :—

	1924–25.		1923–24.		1922–23.	
	Cases.	Deaths	Cases.	Deaths	Cases.	Deaths
Baroda city	...	...	1	1	...	...
Baroda district	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kadi district	...	...	15	4	2	2
Navsari district	...	...	...	...	...	...
Amreli district	...	...	...	...	269	227
Total ...	...	...	16	5	271	229

900. The percentage of deaths in Plague cases was nil during the year against 31·2 in the preceding year and 84·5 in the year 1922-23.

Mortality of Plague.

901. The number of Plague infected towns and villages was nil during the year against 2 in the preceding year and 3 in the year 1922-23.

Number of towns and villages infected.

Influenza.

902. As there was no serious epidemic of Influenza during the year, the total number of Influenza cases reported was 11 as against nil in the preceding year and 384 in the year 1922-23.

Number of Influenza cases.

(1) GENERAL REMARKS.

903. A donation of Rs. 18,000 in different forms was accepted from Mr. Manekji R. Patel for maintaining a 4th class dispensary at Tavdi in the Navsari Taluka.

General remarks.

The Indian Concert is played at the State General Hospital once in a fortnight for the amusement of the in-door patients there.

A post of Nurse and Midwife is created at the Sojitra dispensary by accepting half the amount from out of a donation contributed by the Local Panchayat there.

A donation of Rs. 2,000 was granted to the Pasteur Institute at Kasauli.

The Railway dispensary at Dabhoi has been sanctioned permanently.

A sum of Rs. 1,00,000 has been provided for in the Medical department's Annual Budget for purchasing a stock of drugs to be kept in reserve at the Medical Stores Depot against unforeseen contingencies.

A donation of Rs. 50,000 is accepted from Sheth Dosabhai Maganlal Parikh of Visnagar for founding a Maternity Home at Visnagar.

Dr. Tapidas was deputed to Calcutta to undergo a short course of instructions in Bacteriology at the Calcutta School of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene.

A Unani dispensary has been opened on the second floor of the Wadi dispensary building in charge of Hakim M. Sayadalli, a Diplomate of the Tibbi College at Delhi in order to treat patients from the Muslim community residing in the city.

A donation of Rs. 5,000 from the people and the Kamrej Mahal Panchayat has been accepted for building a 4th class dispensary at Orna in the Navsari Taluka supplemented by a grant from the government of Rs. 2,500.

A donation of Rs. 8,500 is ordered to be accepted for building a 4th class dispensary with a Ward for women attached to it at Nardipur in the Kalol Taluka of the Kadi district.

A post of Nurse and Midwife has been created for the Palsana dispensary by accepting a moiety of expenses to the extent of Rs. 420 p.a. from the Mahal Panchayat there.

The State donation of Rs. 800 p.a. is continued to the Victoria Memorial Scholarship Fund (Dai Class) for a further period of 5 years from the current year.

The post of Steward created at the State General Hospital in the year 1922 has been made permanent.

A reference may here be made to the good and helpful work that Mrs. Sulochana Desai has been doing to popularise the idea of taking up nursing as a profession amongst the middle and upper classes of Hindu women in the Bombay Presidency, and particularly in Gujarat and Kathiawar. Through her ceaseless efforts the Nurses' Hostel for Women of which she is the Honourary Matron Superintendent and which is attached to the State General Hospital at Baroda, is now attracting more and more women as probationer nurses. It is hoped that in course of time with the growing popularity of this institution, it will be possible to recruit still better educated, more healthy and cultured young women as Nurses, of which there is such a crying need throughout the whole of India.

B. Vital Statistics.

(a) Sanitation.

904. During the year, Dr. D. C. Talati, B.Hy., D.T.M., D.P.H., F.C.S., continued as Sanitary Commissioner.

Personnel.

905. The following are among the chief functions of the Sanitary department:—

Duties.

1. Annual inspection of Municipal and Vishishta Panchayat Offices and supervision over sanitary works in the whole Raj.
2. Supervision over Registration of births and deaths and compilation of the Vital Statistics.
3. Vaccination.
4. Sanitary propaganda through lectures, magic lantern shows, literature and exhibitions.
5. Recording of Meteorological observations.

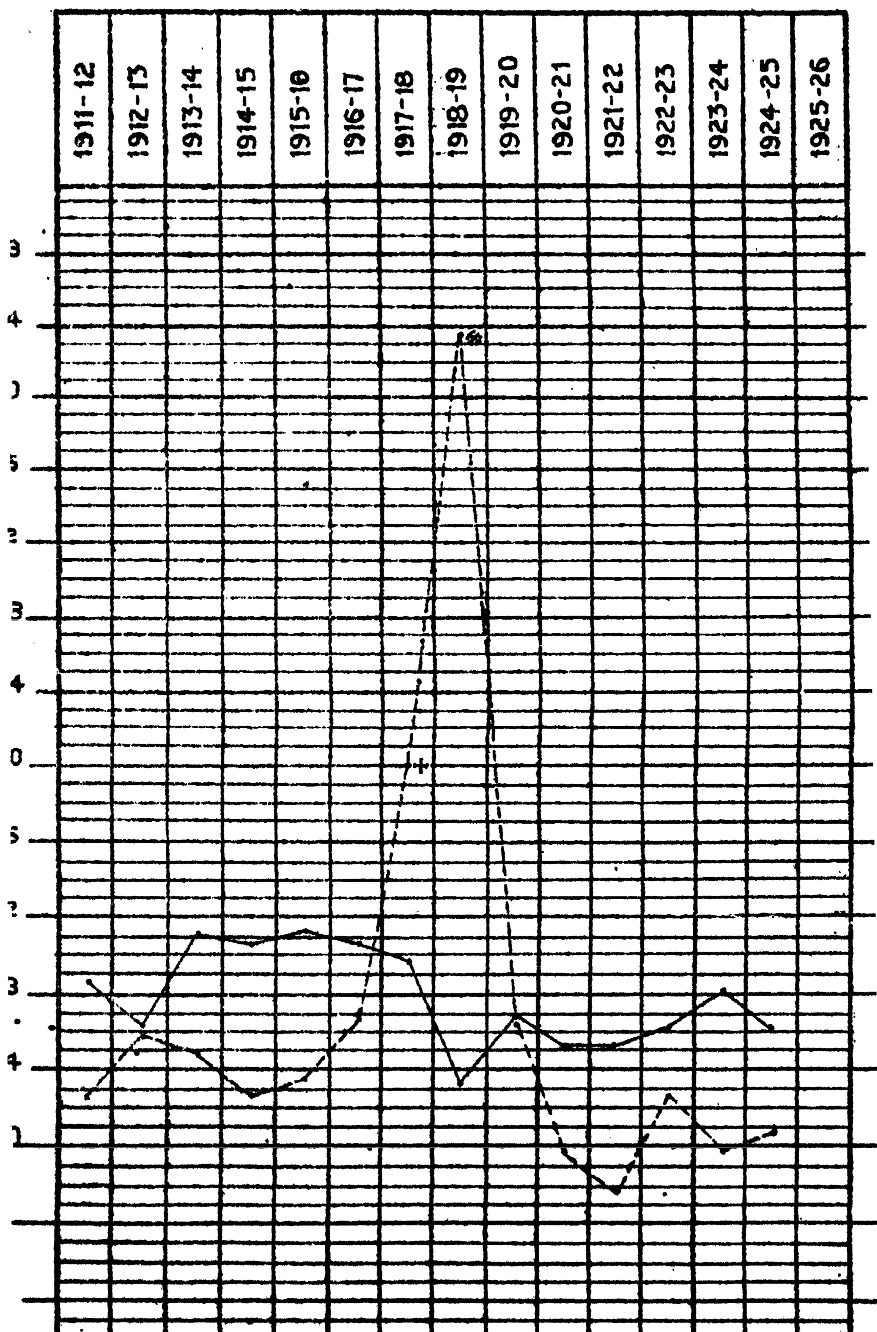
906. The Sanitary Commissioner toured for 120 days in all during the year against 145 in the preceding year throughout the four Prants for inspection and other duties. The cause of the slight fall in the number of touring days is due to the fact that about one month was spent in Baroda to organize the Baby Week and one month in Navsari to organize anti-malaria work and health exhibition. 25 towns and 13 villages were visited as against 36 towns and 12 villages in the previous year. In order to organise and consolidate the anti-malaria work in Navsari and Songadh which are the centres of operation for the campaign, frequent visits were necessary to those places. Necessary suggestions for sanitary improvements were made to the different Municipal and Panchayat Institutions as well as to the revenue authorities. Wherever possible, improvements were made on the spot.

Inspection and tours.

In most of the towns with Municipalities and Vishishta Panchayats, informal meetings of the members were held wherein sanitary defects and mistakes in the registration of births and deaths were discussed and remedies suggested.

BIRTH & DEATH RATES PER 1000

FROM 1911-12 TO 1924-25.



(b) VITAL STATISTICS.

907. The following table will show the comparison of births and deaths in the whole State during the year and the previous three years:—

Births and deaths.

Year.	Number of Births.	Number of Deaths.	Ratio of births per mille of population.	Ratio of deaths per mille of population.
1921-22...	53,685	37,883	25·2	17·8
1922-23...	56,183	48,506	26·4	22·8
1923-24...	60,223	42,404	28·3	19·9
1924-25...	56,235	44,428	26·4	20·9

These figures show that there was a decrease of 3,989 births and an increase of 2,024 deaths as compared with the figures of the last year.

Of the total number of births, there were 29,787 males and 26,448 females, i.e. for every 100 female births 112·6 male births were registered.

Similarly of the total number of deaths, 23,795 were among males and 20,633 among females, i.e. for every 100 female deaths 115·3 male deaths were registered which show that both in the case of births and deaths the figures for males exceed those for females.

Causes of Deaths.

Causes of Deaths	Number of Deaths.	Ratio per mille of population.
Fever	35,634	16·78
Plague	3	0·001
Cholera...	13	0·006
Small-pox	1,057	0·49
Dysentery and Diarrhœa	737	0·34
Cough (other Respiratory diseases) ...	1,390	0·65
Pneumonia	262	0·12
Consumption	910	0·42
Injuries and Accidents	491	0·23
All other causes	3,931	1·85
Total ...	44,428	20·9

From these figures it would appear that deaths from fevers predominated over those from other diseases forming nearly 80 p.c. of the total. The term fever includes malaria, enteric fever and other diseases with symptoms of fever not classified in the above list. Even some deaths from Influenza might have been included in the heading of fever

On recent inquiry at Navsari for malarial survey and on studying figures of the last ten years, it appears that above 40 p.c. of the total deaths were due to malarial fever.

Malaria is the chief sanitary problem of the State. The Municipalities and the local bodies are encouraged to take up this problem more seriously and start anti-malaria and anti-mosquito campaign in right earnest. It is gratifying to note that Navsari Prant has taken the lead in the matter and anti-malaria work has been started in Navsari and Songadh.

(c) Vaccination.

908. The following table gives the number of persons primarily vaccinated and revaccinated during the year as compared with the previous year:—

Vaccination work.

Persons.	Primary Vaccination.		Re-Vaccination.	
	1924-1925.	1923-1924.	1924-25.	1923-24.
Males.	34,092	33,888	3,256	3,366
Females.	31,514	31,113	615	1,010
Total ...	65,606	65,001	3,871	4,376

The total number of persons vaccinated during the year was 69,477 against 69,377 in the preceding year. Thus there was an increase of 100 on the whole.

The number of successful primary vaccinations was 63,540, the percentage of the success being 96·8, and the number of successful revaccinations was 2,553; while the rate of protection afforded per mille of population per annum was 32·7 against 32·6 in the preceding year.

The aggregate realization of fees credited to government for vaccinating children at their homes was Rs. 508–12–0 against Rs. 562-10-0 in the previous year.

The total expenditure on account of vaccination was Rs. 40,469-15-11 during the year against Rs. 35,016-11-2 in the preceding year.

(d) METEOROLOGY.

909. There is a second class Meteorological station in the Baroda city. The results of the readings taken at the Baroda College Observatory during the year showed that 116·2° F was the maximum temperature recorded in May and 36·3° F the minimum one in January 1925.

Meteorological station.

The Barometer average monthly records were highest (29·882) in December 1924, and the lowest (29·444) in June 1925.

The prevailing winds during the greater part of the year had south-westerly component.

The daily velocity of wind varied from 98 miles in October 1924 to 240 miles in May 1925. The average daily velocity was 148 miles during the year.

The average daily humidity was 46 against 40 in the preceding year.

The highest temperature recorded in the year was 118° F at Mehsana dispensary in the month of May 1925, and the lowest 35° F at Kalol dispensary in the month of January 1925.

The highest rainfall was 63·62 inches at Bilimora and the lowest 8·67 inches at Dwarka.

(e) SPECIAL FEATURES.

910. Anti-malarial work in Navsari Prant.

I. During the year, the Sanitary Commissioner in consultation with the Chief Medical Officer and the Suba of Navsari Prant drew up a scheme for

anti-malarial work for Navsari Kasba and Songadh town. The scheme was published in a booklet form. The Commissioner paid seven visits to Navsari and four to Songadh in order to make a preliminary survey, to initiate practical work, and to train up local workers including the Boy Scouts.

The Navsari Municipality employed a special staff under a qualified medical officer. The staff is ably assisted by the Navsari Boy Scouts. Government have sanctioned half the expenses towards the work. The Navsari District Local Board has also engaged a Sanitary Surveyor to carry on propaganda work against malaria in the Navsari district. Half the pay of the Sanitary Inspector is defrayed by government. The problems of anti-malarial work in Navsari and Songadh are of different types.

In Navsari there were found great many mosquito breeding places; and mostly anopheline mosquitoes were found; whereas in Songadh though there were fewer mosquito breeding places, a large number of people got enlarged spleen and parasites in blood.

Out of 242 boys and girls of Kaliparaj Boarding schools and day schools, 134, i.e. 55·4 p.c. were found with enlarged spleens. From the same Boarding schools, out of 94 persons whose blood was examined, 46 were found with parasites, i.e. 48·9. p.c. The parasites were mostly of malignant territory species. Further, a house to house examination was made in Songadh. Out of the population of 2,013 persons, 1,011 were examined for splenic index; out of these persons examined, 319 i.e. 31·5 p.c. were found with enlarged spleen. From this it will be seen that the problem at Songadh is chiefly concerned with parasite

destruction; and that of Navsari is chiefly centered round mosquito reduction. The problem for the anti-malaria work in India will be greatly facilitated if it is possible to find out any cheaper drug that can replace quinine which is very costly and which, therefore, cannot be had in sufficient quantity. Hence at Songadh, the following drugs are being tried on the boys and girls of Boarding schools:—

(1) Concentrated decoction of Neem bark (Melia Azadirachta).

(2) Extract from the parasite growing on Neem tree commonly known in Gujarat as Galo–Satwa.

(3) Lemon juice (succus Lemonis).

Experiments are being made on students of the boarding with a view to find out how far these drugs can be useful as prophylactic and curative as compared to quinine.

II. During the year, a thorough inspection of Lalbagh in Baroda and its surroundings was made by the Sanitary Commissioner with the Health Officer with a view to find out mosquito breeding places. A report was subsequently submitted with necessary instructions to the sanitary staff at the Bagh.

III. A report was submitted to government on the storm water drains in Baroda city and on the water supply to the city.

IV. The Baby Week and a Health Exhibition was successfully organised in Navsari during the X'mas week from 24th to 31st December 1924.

The Baby Week was also successfully organised in the Baroda city from 1st to 6th February 1925 together with the Health Exhibition in Baroda city.

V. A report was submitted to government through the Education department on the condition of children of Songadh Kaliparaj Boarding Houses and their dietaries.

VI. The Medical Inspection of school children was carried out by the Sub-Assistant Surgeons under the supervision and guidance of the Sanitary Commissioner.

VII. Regarding Model Villages, there was no further progress made owing to want of funds and enterprise on the part of local bodies.

VIII. Sites of Ukardas and manure heaps and Chamarkunds were selected at several places. The problem of manure heaps is a very serious one in many villages as the farmers insist on keeping them in their compounds for the major part of the year regarding them as very precious material for their farms. Not only do they do so but they keep them wet to hasten the decaying process. This state of affairs requires to be remedied and unless the sanitary conscience of the villagers is awakened, it will always be a cause of rural ill-health.

IX. Several lectures were given to the public, mostly with magic lantern shows, dealing with problems of sanitation and health.

X. The Sanitary Commissioner worked as the Hon. Secretary of Shri. Maharani Chimnabai Maternity and Child Welfare League. The work of the League has increased enormously as the Sanitary Association, Shri. Chimnabai Maternity Fund and other funds have been amalgamated in the central league which also carries on the work of medical inspection of schools and school children.

CHAPTER X.

CONCLUSION.

911. The world conditions have commenced to show a tendency towards stability in spite of several uncertain factors, and it will perhaps not be too optimistic to hope for the return in a few years of prosperous times. Humanity is now looking forward to such an improvement after years of turmoil and trouble. The unnatural inflation of prices appears to have reached its upward limit; the vagaries of international finance and trade are slowly waning, and the economic life of society has commenced to find its equilibrium. It is natural that these signs of the times should be favourably reflected in the peace and prosperity of His Highness' dominions.

Conditions satisfactory.

912. The long series of surplus budgets for the last decade has been maintained during this year, and it is gratifying to note that the receipts show a balance of about Rs. 50 lakhs, which means an increase of Rs. 19 lakhs over last year's surplus of Rs. 31 lakhs. This continuance of the satisfactory state of solvent finances of the Raj is mainly due to the wise guidance of His Highness, and the anxious care of His Highness' government to carry out the policy laid down by him.

Increase in last year's surplus budget.

913. It has been decided to start two permanent funds out of the savings of the State. They are (1) the Railway fund, and (2) the Interest fund. The object of the Railway fund is to meet the Railway capital expenditure, and the expenditure on depreciation and repairs of Railways. The Interest fund is devised with a view to keep the reserve of the State continuously recouped. A small beginning has been made with regard to both by investing Rs. 1 lakh in each fund, and it is expected to strengthen both the funds materially from the next year.

Starting of Railway and Interest funds.

914. The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 1,94,31,175. The proportion of expenditure on various important heads has been given in the diagram attached, facing page 92.

Total expenditure.

915. The needs of the people are growing, and the maintenance of efficient service is getting more costly. It has always been the care of His Highness' government to see that the real needs of the people are met economically to a point where the efficiency of the service through which the needs are supplied is least likely to suffer. The net increase in disbursements over the last year's expenditure is a little more than Rs. 5 lakhs.

Increase in disbursements.

916. The condition of the State finance ought to be an index of the condition of people in general. Though we are passing through a cycle of lean years in regard to the intensity of rain-fall, the timely precipitation, and a fair distribution of rains favourably influence the aspect of the season. The variation of rain-fall according to the districts for the last ten years has been brought out in graphical form on the chart facing page 100, and it will be seen therefrom that the conditions during the year were better than those that obtained during the last year. Except for certain areas in the Amreli district and Okhamandal, the prospects of the crops in the State were fair, and the agricultural section of the population fared well. The proportion of realisation of the land revenue to the total demand stood at 99 per cent., and a drop in the cases against which coercive measures were employed speaks well of both the satisfactory condition of the populace and the vigilance of the revenue authorities in realizing the demands.

Rain-fall, land revenue realisation and total demand.

917. Agriculture is the staple occupation of the people, and no less than 68 per cent. of His Highness' subjects are employed therein. The Gujarat agriculturist is fairly intelligent and industrious, and though he loves his profession, he is absolutely dependent upon

Agriculture—staple occupation of Gujarat.

monsoon rains for his successful agricultural labours. He knows pretty well that the monsoon is generally fitful, and that the weather has its vagaries. He is, however, lukewarm in his attempts to get over the difficulties created by the uncertainty of the rains, and his conservatism does not permit of his availing himself of the immense possibilities of science in the field of agriculture.

Modernising Indian conditions of Agriculture.

918. Government is trying through the agency of the Agriculture department to see how far Indian conditions would allow modernity to be superimposed on our traditional systems of agriculture with advantage. It is also the effort of the government to place before the agriculturist proper means whereby evil effects of uncertain rains could be minimised.

Demonstration Farm at Dabhoi.

919. The big irrigation tanks constructed for the purpose, have not yet demonstrated to any large number of farmers the advantage of the use of tank waters. With a view to popularise the use of such an irrigation tank, constructed at Wadhawana, a demonstration farm has been started at Dabhoi since the last year.

Problem of boring wells.

920. It is, however, in the direction of boring wells that a remarkable activity has been evinced during the year. The big water works projects are being undertaken by the Public Works department ; the Kadi District Panchayat has devoted itself to the work of boring wells in places where there is scarcity of drinking water ; and the department of Agriculture has been tackling the problem of boring wells of agricultural utility. In about four places artesian flow of water has been tapped. The activity of the Agriculture department with regard to boring wells has been well illustrated in the chart given, facing page 188.

Preservation of fodder by pit silo method.

921. The preservation of fresh fodder is another important agricultural problem that was taken up by way of demonstration with the help of the Registrar, Co operative

Societies The method utilised in silage was the inexpensive kutcha pit silo method, and it has appealed to the agriculturists wherever it was demonstrated.

922. The financial side of agriculture has much to do with the co-operative movement. The idea is slowly but steadily gaining ground among the people and no amount of effort will be too great for the propagation of co-operative principles. The progress of the co-operative movement in our State is satisfactory as will be seen from the chart facing page 216 showing the continuous increase in the number of societies and membership, and the financial progress of the movement is appreciable, as can be seen from the chart, facing page 216, delineating the yearly achievement in the reserve fund, deposits and working capital for the last seven years.

Progress of co-operative movement.

923. The wide range and the different spheres in which the principle of co-operation can be made serviceable are shown by the variety of the types of institutions started already under the auspices of the Co-operative department ; but the most noticeable type that has been brought into existence this year is the Sokhada Society which is making a successful attempt at consolidation of scattered holdings. The experiment is frought with great possibilities, and government are watching it with keen interest.

Consolidation of scattered holdings by Co-operative department.

924. In the development of means of communication, the Panchayats are made to take interest so far as the construction or maintenance of local roads are concerned, the trunk roads, of course, remaining under the care of the Public Works department. The future programme for the roads is being arranged in consultation with the Railway department, as the construction of several railway lines will alter and modify our ideas as regards the importance and needs of roads contemplated in the past.

Means of communication.

925. The Railway department is yet in its infancy and is, therefore, prone to exhibit at times signs of infantile waywardness. It cannot, however, be gainsaid that the train services are improving, efficiency in the management is maintained, and the care taken in affording facilities to the passengers and goods traffic is being repaid in increased earnings. The formation of an Advisory Board consisting of Railway and other government officials along with well-known experts in Railway management and business magnates is sure to lead to better results, and the ultimate programme of the Railway construction in the State graphically outlined by the Minister in his inaugural address (given in Appendix I) to the Advisory Board will be kept in view by the department and steadily worked out.

Activities of Railway department.

926. The consideration of the means of communication would naturally lead one to a consideration of trade and industry in the State. The world-wide trade slump is still there, and it will not be an easy process for the industries to shake off its depressing effects. It is, however, gratifying to know that most of the old industries have successfully weathered the vagaries of trade, and the new ones are making satisfactory attempts to tide over the difficult situation. It may be observed with satisfaction that whereas in 1920–21 only four textile mills were working, there are thirteen mills doing their work in the year under Report. The policy of His Highness' Government towards industrial concerns remains unchanged; the offer of concessions, facilities and guidance has been continued ; and though the closing down of the Dwarka Cement Factory and the liquidation of the Modern Chemical Works are regrettable, every effort is being made to prop up industrial enterprise in the State.

Condition of industries.

927. In order to put the various trading interests in an organised form, attempts were made to form Chambers of Commerce, and it may be noted that two such Chambers have already been brought into existence.

Chambers of Commerce.

928. The Commercial Intelligence Bureau maintained by the Commerce department is becoming attractive and the opening of the long distance telephone office has rendered communication with important business centres easy.

Commercial Intelligence Bureau.

929. The construction of the Sayaji Pier at Okha Port which has by now been opened for sea-borne traffic, was fast reaching completion during the year The venture promises to create a land-mark in the commercial history of the State

Sayaji Pier at Okha Port.

930. Mere financial help to industry is not the only method of promoting industry. Government have been doing their utmost to give sound technical training in different arts, and the institution of Kala-Bhavan, with its reputation as a premier technical academy on this side of Gujarat, continues to do useful work. The possibilities of technical education are immense, and the advice of an expert like Principal King of the Benares Engineering College is sought to make the institution more conducive to the spread of technical education which is one of the most regenerative forces of the modern world. The institution has been housed in a building specially constructed to meet its requirements with an up-to-date Work-shop attached to it.

Useful work of Kala-Bhavan.

931. Even the orthodox type of primary and secondary education is gradually being given an industrial bias. The experiment is being tried in some Vernacular schools and the result is awaited with interest.

Industrial training in Primary and Secondary schools.

932. Whether the lead given by His Highness' government in enforcing primary education on the people while at the same time making it free was a move at the right moment, might be judged from the figures. Government are not unaware of the shortcomings of the method prevalent now; they accept that there is a large scope for improvement in

System of compulsory and free education.

their compulsory and free system of education. But in the absence of any enlightened policy adopted by the local self-governing bodies in matters of education, government have necessarily to see that every child of the State is given an opportunity to enter the portals of learning. It may, however, be necessary to examine the working of the Compulsory Education Act in the past for which steps are now being taken and a Committee has been appointed for the purpose.

933. The number of educational institutions has decreased by 31 during this year, but it need not cause any trepidation with regard to the policy of the department. It is due to the wise policy of combining two or more institutions wherever possible and eliminating duplication of institutions where it could be conveniently done. There has been an increase of over 2 thousand pupils over the last year's number.

Educational Institutions.

934. There has been a steady increase in the educational expenses. The fluctuations in educational expenditure has been traced in the chart, facing page 270 from the year 1906 to the current year. A gradual rise from about 6 lakhs to something over 30 lakhs within a period of 20 years will show how the government of His Highness has upheld the cause of education, and the diagram facing page 92 will show the proportion that the educational expenditure bears to the other heads and also to the total Land Revenue of the State.

Increase in educational expenses.

The financial resources of the State have a certain fixity, and the expenses on education will have always to be governed by that fact. However, the torch of learning and education has been kept ablaze with studious care; every shade of learning is fostered, from the orthodox Sanskrit Seminars to the most up-to-date Research Library with five thousand ancient manuscripts of great value; from a Kindergarten school to the College; from a Weaving class to the well-known Technical Institution of Kala-Bhavan; and

from an indigenous gymnasium or Akhada to the splendid Boy Scout movement; all these phases of education are receiving the fostering care of His Highness' Government.

Musical Academy.

935. The Musical Academy with some of the well-known Masters of Music in His Highness' employ to give instructions therein is trying to revive the taste of the public in several branches of Indian music.

Library movement.

936. The Library movement pervading almost the whole Raj is one of the most useful movements that the State could be proud of. It emanates from the well equipped Central Library at Baroda which is run on the approved open access system, and spreads itself into a net-work of village libraries scattered throughout the territories of the State. The percentage of population served by the Libraries and Reading Rooms is well illustrated in the chart facing page 306.

Museum and Picture Gallery.

937. The Museum with its attractive adjunct—the Picture Gallery, forms the most delightful and instructive institution where a stream of daily visitors is constantly pouring in.

Utilisation of fines under the Compulsory Education Act.

938. Out of the fines levied and collected under the Compulsory Education Act from recalcitrant parents, sixty per cent is spent on the construction of primary schools in villages, and thirty-five per cent is utilised for scholarships to be given to children of poor parents. Out of this amount, Rs. 5,000 were utilised for the purpose of supplying clothes to poor and needy children attending schools.

Opening of Law Class.

939. The scheme of opening a class in the Maharani High School for Girls to prepare candidates for the University degree of Bachelor of Teaching has been sanctioned; and attempts are also made to open Law Classes in Baroda with a view to prepare students for the Law Degrees. Arrangements are also being made to institute and popularise Adult education.

940. A sound educational policy generally results in a healthy public life. The desire of the people to look after their local comforts, and to supply their local needs by managing their own internal affairs is becoming evident. His Highness' government had already forestalled this, and had, therefore, started a net-work of Local Bodies all through the Raj. Their activities and growth are sympathetically watched and guided, and it may be noted with pleasure that the progress though not fast is considerable, on the whole.

Effects of sound educational policy.

941. The Baroda District Board has been authorised to elect its own President from the non-official members for a period of two years; most of the Mahal Panchayats have been permitted to elect their own Vice-Presidents from the non-official members; and five of these Mahal Panchayats, viz. Petlad, Bhadran, Pattan, Amreli and Saoli have been allowed to exercise the powers of selecting their own Presidents.

Elected Presidents and Vice-Presidents to Local Bodies.

942. 47 Village Boards have been allowed to exercise civil and criminal powers and a number of Village Boards in Baroda and Naosari districts were allowed the privilege of electing their own Presidents.

Civil and criminal powers to Village Boards.

943. It may also be noted that the Municipalities of Naosari and Amreli were also empowered to elect their own non-official Presidents.

Non-official Presidents to Naosari and Amreli Municipalities.

944. The constitution of the Vishishta Panchyats has been liberalised by the introduction of the principle of two-thirds elected members and one-third nominated members instead of the half and half proportion prevailing till the year under report.

Vishishta Panchayats.

945. A proper and prudent exercise of the rights conferred on the above mentioned bodies should afford them no small training in matters of local administration. The activities of the Panchayats starting from the Village Board

Administration by Local Bodies.

extend on the one hand gradually to the Mahal and the District Local Boards, and on the other hand to the Vishishta Panchayats and Municipalities, and finally they converge into the State Legislative Council wherein the electorate through its representatives is brought face to face with problems of administration and legislation in which the government seek their advice and help.

Responsive attitude by Local Bodies.

946. Government expect such institutions and local bodies to do their work carefully, wisely and with energy. It would be very discouraging to see these institutions exhibiting an apathetic and inane temperament. They should be more responsive to the crying needs of the people, and should imbibe the spirit of modern civil life. To cry a halt to any advance in rural sanitation and allied problems of economic welfare simply on account of the fear of incurring financial responsibilities will be suicidal. The powers given to the Local Bodies are large and liberal; they are allowed the privilege of taxation; they are offered opportunities to take living interest in the administration of law both in criminal and civil justice; in fact, the plan of making villages self-contained for their local welfare is put before them for execution. It is hoped local leaders will do their utmost to carry out the very important task of reviving the old national institution of the Panchayats which has survived the vicissitudes of ages.

Deaths.

947. There is a little increase of about 2,000 in the number of deaths during the year. The birth and death rates per thousand from the year 1911-12 to the current year are illustrated in the chart facing page 330 and it will be interesting to observe that except for those years of plague and influenza, the tendency of the curve which hardly shows disquieting fluctuations is towards improved conditions.

Causes of deaths.

948. Among the principal causes of death delineated in the chart facing page 330 during the year, fever takes the highest toll of life. Fever includes Malaria, which is the greatest scourge in

India. It is the most devitalising of the maladies, and the Naosari District Board deserves congratulations on its earnest and systematic efforts directed against this malignant disease.

949. It is regrettable that the scheme of model villages has made little progress during the year. The sanitary conscience of the people should be awakened, as sanitation is more a matter for the people themselves. The anxious concern of His Highness' government towards the preservation of the health of the people will bear fruit only when the people come to appreciate the Health Exhibitions, Baby Weeks and other educative propaganda in behalf of sanitation.

Model villages.

950. The year passed quietly without any great disturbance to the peace of the subjects. The echoes of Mirkhan and Babar Dewa are fast subsiding and some of the extra Police that was sanctioned for those troublesome days is being disbanded as redundant.

General Peace.

951. It was only in Petlad Taluka that an agitation was started against the introduction of the Revision Settlement. Mr. Datar, the Sar Suba, was deputed to make a thorough inquiry into the causes of the complaints of the people, and as a result of his report revised rates were made operative from St. 1980 instead of from the year 1979. Certain remissions in subsoil water assessment were conceded to all the villages of the Petlad and Bhadran Talukas. The agitation which assumed an exaggerated importance subsided after some time and the leaders of the agitation exhibited sound sense in meeting the wishes of government and withdrawing their aggressive attitude.

Agitation in Petlad.

952. The auspicious occasion of His Highness' Golden Jubilee fell during the year, but the full celebration of the event was postponed till His Highness' return from Europe in accordance with the wishes of His Highness' devoted subjects. How enthusiastically the celebrations were received by the people will form an interesting and inviting subject for the report of the coming year.

Golden Jubilee of His Highness.

APPENDIX I.

MEMBERS OF THE RAILWAY ADVISORY BOARD !

I have great pleasure in extending you a cordial welcome on behalf of the Government of His Highness the Maharaja Saheb Gaekwar. I am very grateful to you, gentlemen, for so readily responding to my call and coming here to advise us in the administration of our State Railways, at great personal inconvenience to yourselves amid the multiplicity of your varied engagements. You are all busy people and I must appreciate the spirit of service and the self-sacrifice manifested by you in thus undertaking this journey to advise us on our Railway problems.

As this meeting is first of its kind, it will not be amiss if I venture to take you back over a retrospect for over fifty years. The Baroda government has earned the reputation of pioneering many a useful reform, and it is with genuine pride that I claim for Baroda a prominent place also n the History of Railway development in this country. For the first Railway in an Indian State, one has to hark back to the year 1873, which saw the first Railway train run from Miyagam to Dabhoi. Six years later during the regime of His Highness the Maharaja Sayaji Rao Gaekwar, this line was extended to Chandod and to-day this Dabhoi Railway forms the heart-string of a regular net-work of the narrow gauge system of Railways which connects the various Taluka towns of the Baroda District with the Capital. The progress of Railway construction has been repaid and with the zeal and thoroughness which have always characterised the liberal policy of His Highness the Maharaja Saheb, we have now well equipped articles of Railway communication throughout the four districts of the Raj.

A glance at the following comparative figures will convince any unbeliever of His Highness' steadfast policy and persevering endeavours to place the benefits of Railway communication within easy reach of the two millions of human beings who own his sway. In 1905, the total mileage of Railways opened to public traffic amounted to 250 miles. Ten years later in 1915, it rose to 486 miles; while during the last decade wherein I had the privilege of being at the helm, the total mileage of Railways has mounted upto 650 miles. The total capital outlay on Railways aggregated to Rs. 84,67,318 in 1905. Ten years later the capital outlay was Rs. 2,40,00,000, while in 1924 it was no less than Rs. 3,85,00,000. This is a splendid and valuable asset for the State and will always be a monument of His Highness' undying work for the good of his State.

His Highness the Maharaja's policy of Railway construction in the past, has been one of wise statesmanship and not always of mere prudent finance. In 1916, it was defined to embrace " all such Railways, whether feeder or chord, as besides being likely to pay, were also needed for their indirect benefit to the country, the development of backward tracts and the opening up of forest areas. Most of the Head Quarters towns of Talukas and other important places of interest, and Shrines of pilgrimage, have now been connected by Rail and several projects have been undertaken merely in the interest of administrative convenience." This explains why several lines like the Choranda-Koral, the Motipura–Tanakhla, the Waghoria–Jarod Savli–Timba and the Kosamba–Zankhvav Railway lines ever found place, on the Railway topics. The Waghoria line was only intended to serve the purpose of a Tramway for bringing grass and forage for our cavalry horses from the Military Bids and pasture grounds set apart in the Waghoria and Savli Talukas. The Choranda-Koral line was undertaken in redemption of an assurance held out to the Karjan Taluka at the time its Jamabandi Settlement was revised. The Motipura–Tanakhla line was constructed to bring the Sankheda quarries of marble and granite within easy access of the market and to connect the far flung group of Amroli villages under Tilakwada with Sankheda Head Quarters. The Kosamba–Zankhvav and the Billimora–Kala–Amba lines were designed to secure the Timber and Bamboo traffic from our forests, as well as to help the firewood and grass from the Dangs and Songhad forests to reach the market. The Dhari–Khijadia line has been constructed solely in the interests of administrative convenience. It is little wonder, therefore, that these subsequent extensions of our Railways, have not proved sound business propositions. They were not meant as financial investments.

Our percentage of Railway earnings which stood in 1905, at the handsome figure of 7·2 and which even improved to 7·5 in 1915, dwindled down to only 3·2 at the end of last decade. We must not close our eyes, however, to the many indirect benefits conferred on the people by the opening up of a new tract of virgin soil and the appreciable rise in land values and forest income. The manifold indirect benefits that follow in the wake of a strenuous railway policy cannot fail to outway the drop in the direct earning capacity of the lines.

This apologia of our railway extensions must not, however, blind us to the growing menace of extravagant working expenses. Our Dabhoi System of Narrow Gauge lines used to cost us before the War about 60 percent of our gross earnings, when they were managed by the B. B. & C. I. Railway Company. That Company had undertaken to work our Narrow Gauge on the basis of actuals, which slowly but surely crept up from year to year. After the War, the percentage of working expenses exceeded 80 per cent, until 1920 when it mounted up to the phenomenal height of 104 per cent.

This last burden broke the camel's back and we decided to assume the management of our Narrow Gauge system from October 1921. Since then, inspite of Herculean difficulties, we have succeeded in bringing down this crest of the wave of expenditure of management until last year when it again subsided to 71 per cent. Our task of managing our own lines has not been at all easy: and the magnitude of the difficulties that beset our path at the outset was so stupendous as would have staggered the stoutest heart. We had no Workshops either for construction or repair of our Locomotives and our Rolling Stock. His Highness the Maharaja Saheb rose equal to the occasion and undaunted and undismayed, he sanctioned the magnificent sum of Rs. 28,00,000 for the erection of an upto-date Workshop for the use of our Railways. These same Workshops were at one time estimated to cost only Rs. 12,00,000 and it was only a policy of nervous hesitation that was responsible for the ultimate expenditure of double the amount on the Workshops erected after the Great War. Without such Workshops our dependence on the B. B. & C. I. Railway could not have been cured and as they were a necessary of life for our railway management, they might have been boldly anticipated a decade earlier. As it is they have cost an immense fortune and this large outlay must prove a drag on the earning capacity of our lines on the capital sunk for a number of years. With this heavy burden on our back, our policy for the future for some years, will have to be concentrated solely on consolidation; on securing intense working and efficiency rather than extension or expansion. I find on the agenda for discussion before this Board, a number of railway extensions in our several districts. I am afraid they will not be practical politics for a number of years. I wish to concentrate my attention for some time on taking stock of our achievements up to date and on securing an increase in the earnings of our lines.

An improvement in the revenue returns of our Railways is dependent on good agricultural seasons, adequate supply of transport facilities and the control of expenses of management. The first boon is not at our command. It is in the lap of the God. For the second and the third we have to depend upon our Railway administration; and it is in these spheres, gentlemen, that I invoke your help and your advice. The expenses of management have continued high not only on our Narrow Gauge System; even on our Railway lines managed and worked by foreign agency, the working expenses have verged upon 70 per cent during the last two years. Out of the total of 650 miles of our Railways, so many as 288 miles are worked by alien agencies; the working expenses there have approximated to 70 per cent of gross earnings and they have secured a return of 5·6 per cent on a capital of Rs. 1,34,00,000 sunk on them. The remaining 353 miles with a capital expenditure of Rs 2,33,00,000 have now been worked by us; and the result has been a working percentage of 71 on the gross earnings and a

return of only 2·8 per cent on our investment. These figures leave large room for improvement. The Railway Workshops threaten to be a regular augean stable to clear up and it is here that I shall value your sage counsel.

We have never disdained well-meant advice. On the contrary, the policy of His Highness' government has been to seek advice from experts and from the public. It was only last year that at the suggestion of His Highness the Maharaja Saheb, I had invited Sir Trevredyne Wynne to visit our Workshop and give us the benefit of his opinion on the problem of additional locomotives and the supply of further Rolling Stock on our lines. This year, I have ventured to nominate this Advisory Board and have presumed to trouble you as friends to help us in solving our problems. I welcome you, gentlemen, and request you to give us the benefit of your experience. I see amongst you, my friend Rai Saheb Chandrika Prasada, who has put in the best years of his life in the service of the B. B. & C. I. Railway. While serving that Company he had the advantage of intimate connection with the Baroda Railways of which he has made a close study. It was on the recommendation of the Rai Saheb that the services of our present capable Manager, Mr. Houldcroft, were engaged and I have to turn to the Rai Saheb for advice regarding the expenses of management. I have put the ideal of 60 per cent as the limit of working expenses before our Manager, and I rely on you all to help the Manager in suggesting ways and means to attain this end. Rai Saheb Chandrika Prasada's advice will also be valuable on the question of the assumption of the working of our Mehsana system of metre gauge Railways, in our hand. He has worked those lines as an officer of the B. B. & C. I. Railway, and his experience must prove of undeniable value to us. The Mehsana lines are being worked on the percentage basis; that is, we are being charged the same proportion of working expenses as obtains on the main line on the gross earnings thereof. When I recall that the percentage of working expenses even on these foreign worked lines, approximates to 70 per cent due solely to the extravagant expenditure of the Gondal State management for the Dhari line, and the Jamnagar–Dwarka management of our Okhamandal line, the prospects of assuming these metre gauge systems for working in our hands, becomes an attractive proposition. We cannot, however, afford to ignore the fact that we have no Rolling Stock of our own for the Mehsana system; and in order that our Workshop at Baroda may serve the purpose of erection and repair, we have to connect it by a through metre gauge line with the Mehsana system. Two alternative alignments have been thought of in this connection; one is to lay a metre gauge line from Goya Gate *via* Vishvamitri across the Mahi to Bhadran, Petlad, Vaso and join it on to the Kathiawar system at Dholka; whence trains may run to Mehsana in one direction and to Botad and Amreli in the other. The other is to convert our Baroda, Savli–Timba line into metre gauge and extend it to Kapadwanj and on to

Dehgam and Kalol. There are several extensions of the metre gauge lines in the Kadi and Amreli districts which have been proposed and are under contemplation. Besides the Attarsumba, Dehgam-Kalol line, there is the proposal to extend the Vijapur line up to Ransipur on the Sabarmati, to run in a chord line from Vijapur to Mehsana *via* Gojaria and Dabhala, another to extend the Dabhoda terminus to Taranga and one to extend the Harij line to Radhanpur. I have indented upon the good offices and advice of Sheth Chhotalal Kilachand, in connection with these Kadi extensions. His practical experience is bound to bear good fruit.

For the Amreli district, our programme includes only the extensions of Railway in our Dhari, Khambha and Kodinar Talukas; and I am confident that Mr. Mohanlal Virji will bring his vast local experience to bear on this intricate question. A direct connection between Khambha and Kodinar and its extension to Velan has been a great desideratum; but it yet unfortunately has not ceased to exercise our minds. Diverse and conflicting interest of various States which have handicapped the work of Railway construction in Kathiawar, have to be reconciled and the task is not at all an easy one. In this connection, I well remember the sage advice given to me about 15 years ago when I was acting as Minister by Sir Trevredyne Wynne, then President of the Railway Board. What was difficult he said for two Indian States to achieve by direct negotiation was not equally difficult with a private commercial Company acting as intermediary. This advice he has given in connection with our idea to construct a Railway to Dwarkā through the Jamnagar State and it has proved a counsel of perfection. May we not hope for a similar solution for our Kodinar connection ? I appeal to you Sheth Laljibhai to help the State in this undertaking.

Sheth Lalji Narayan has large agricultural interest in the Kodinar Taluka and with vast resources and unbounded influence with the commercial world at Bombay and elsewhere, the formation of a Joint Stock Limited Company for the extension of Railways in our States, is not fraught with insurmountable difficulties to him. We have a large and ambitious building programme and State capital cannot be expected to cope with all the financial obligations involved therein. The State can guarantee a certain percentage of earnings and with a system of rebates and guarantees, may assure a certain income to the share-holders. I make this suggestion for the consideration of the Railway magnets in this country, Sheth Lalji has been taking interest in the development of industries in this State, for which I am grateful to him. I have the privilege of serving with him on the Board of management for the Jamnagar and Dwarka Railway Company; and with the Adatra Harbour approaching completion, my imagination raises before me the picture of imports of goods and merchandise required for Central India, being landed at Adatra and taken down to Mehsana and Ratlam *via* Jamnagar and Morvi Railways. I count upon the

assistance of Sheth Laljibhai in helping the realisation of my dream by preparing the ground for a conjoint management of the Railway systems intervening by a Joint Board, if necessary. Sheth Lalji's interest in Kodinar, should suffice to make him enthusiastic about the development of the Velan port. It has certain distinct advantages which should not be allowed to go to waste. With a harbour at Velan and improved transhipment facilities at the Bilimora Jetty, the prospects of the Bilimora Dang Railways are bound to improve. Sheth Lalji Narayan has a vast and valuable fund of experience gained in connection with the Stores purchases over which Committee he had the honour to preside and he can help us by looking into our system of Stores purchase for our Railways as well. Sheth Laljibhai can also help the Moribund Spinning and Weaving Mill at Bilimora. It is a huge and laudable enterprise and with better times the project may yet achieve fruition with the help of financier friends.

From Bilimora to the Navsari Railway is but a step. The energetic and enthusiastic Suba of Navsari is here to advise us and with his valuable experience as Director of Industries and Commerce, his advice is bound to be of great value. In the Navsari district, our programme only embraces the extension of the Kala-Amba line further into the Dang forests and ultimately extend it *via* Salher to Nasik. Similarly the Kosamba-Zankhvav line has to be extended into the interior of the Umarpada and Wejpur forests. Connections with the Dharampur forests and the Nasik-Bulsar Trunk Road, may bring more forests traffic to the Bilimora Jetty and a traffic survey has already been ordered. The shifting of the Kala-Amba terminus to Waghai from Jherria, has been referred to you for advice. The Navsari district also claims some connections in the interior and they have been regularly surveyed. The one peculiar feature of His Highness' dominions which is largely accentuated in the Navsari district, is their interlacing with British India. The Baroda territory is not one compact solid mass, but is scattered about four districts and is largely interlaced with British India and other Indian States. Whatever may have been the wisdom of this original partition of territories with the Peshwas, it has been the cause of great administrative inconvenience and has added largely to the expenses of administration. To take only the instance of our Railways, the two narrow gauge systems of Railway in Navsari, are not connected with each other and both of them are disconnected from the Baroda system and the Workshops at the capital. If a locomotive at Bilimora or at Kala-Amba wants repairs, it has to be transhipped on the Broad gauge trucks to Goya Gate. This is needlessly expensive and troublesome. His Highness the Maharaja Saheb had asked for a scheme under which all our disconnected systems of Railways may be connected; and it was proposed to run a line from Unai across Vyara and after crossing the Tapti beyond Songad at the

narrowest defile in Vejpur to take the line through Rajpipla and after crossing the Nurmada at the gorge below Shulpan to form a junction with our line at Tankhala. These may appear as wild and fanciful schemes; but the forests are abundant, and if tapped, are likely to add largely to the earning capacity of the lines. They are not wild goose chase projects if you look to the fullness of time.

From Tankhala, we joggle on and come down to Goya Gate after having circumnavigated the whole of the Gaekwar's dominions. For the Baroda district, our programme of railways has already been worked out. There is hardly any new extension in the interior that is eligible. We have the extension of the Bahadarpur-Bodeli line beyond Chhota-Udaipur towards Kukshi near Barwani on the Nurmada on the one hand, and the construction of the Dabka-Bhadran line on the other; and it is in connection with this latter bold project that the advice of the veteran of our Dhara Sabha, Mr. Vrajbhai will be invaluable. He can tell us where we can ford the Mahi at the least expense and how we can project our line towards Dhandhuka or Dholera and on to Botad. This direct connection with Kathiawar by the shortest route, was suggested to us by the British Government so early as 1878 when the claims of the Petlad-Tarapur line were urged upon us in preference to the Vasad, Borsad-Petlad route, and there is no reason why the vested interest of the Kathiawar States should for ever prevent this short and cheap transit to Kathiawar over the head of the Gulf of Cambay. What may be denied to a Ruler, it may not be possible to deny to a Commercial Railway Syndicate. I have now exhausted my programme of Railway Construction in the Baroda Raj. It may seem very ambitious; but I am not looking to my life time alone. I do not believe in a deluge to follow my exit. If influential financiers are interested in Railway developments, the progress of Railway Construction in Indian States, can be expedited; and with this suggestion of fostering Railway Joint Stock Companies with State aid of rebates and guarantees, what seems a Utopia may be brought down within the realms of practical politics.

The Railway Advisory Committee have also another function that of safeguarding the interest of the trade and the travelling public. If our coaching and goods stock is not adequate, you have to advise us as how best to replenish the stock. If the locomotives are old, if there are frequent failures and cases of engine trouble, if in consequence there are many occurrences of misconnections and indefinite waiting at Junction Stations, you will please advise us how to obviate these difficulties. If there are restrictions on particular traffic at Junction Stations, you have to help us in getting them removed. You may suggest alterations in fares, consider the timings of trains, and see if they are most subservient of public convenience or not and also suggest if more amenities to the travelling public in the way of lighting, conveniences, water closets, catering of wholesome food and waiting rooms and sheds are needed in the interests of the people.

Gentlemen, I welcome you again, and with heartfelt gratitude, I now ask you to proceed to your deliberations.

MANUBHAI N.,

Dewan.

APPENDIX II.

GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in according you warm welcome. We meet here after three years. In the meanwhile the trade and commerce all over the world are in the throes of unparalled depression. Industrial depression still continues in Mid European countries. Slump in trade has thrown thousands of people out of their employments in England and many factories have been closed. All this has seriously affected the development of our trade. Even old and well established concerns find it difficult to work with full vigour. Prominent businessmen of Bombay, the great centre of commerce, are experiencing the greatest anxiety. It is but natural then if our trade and commerce be not in a flourishing condition.

The Advisory Board has sustained a great loss in the death of Mr. Khaserao Jadhav, its first permanent President. I feel extremely sorrowful at his death. He had evinced great energy in developing the trade and commerce of the Baroda State. His counsel always showed his sympathy and genuine anxiety for the welfare of commerce of this State. In his death the Board has sustained a great loss.

During the last five years trade and commerce in India is faced with serious difficulties. It is yet pleasant to note that our old and established concerns have tided over the difficulties and are keeping their heads erect. India has been almost drained of its cash money. Exports to foreign countries have much diminished and imports have been similarly affected. Rates of exchange have facilitated the import of specie to foreign countries and owing to the ever fluctuating rates of exchange, no forward business on a large scale could be done. Manufactured goods are lying unsold in the factories and hence working capital to keep the concerns going is not forthcoming. Businessmen are in great anxiety and have been seriously perturbed by this state of affairs. In spite of these adverse circumstances, some of our newly started concerns have been able to show some progress which you will be pleased to note with satisfaction. Five years ago projects for establishing 15 cotton mills in the State were under consideration, of which one mill at Navsari, five at Baroda with one woollen mill, two at Petlad, three at Kalol, one at Kadi, two at Sidhpur and one Weaving factory at Damnagar; 15 concerns in all have been established. The Billimora mills are yet not out of difficulties and the project of one mill at Kalol has not materialised as yet.

After the lamented death of Sir Vithaldas Thakersey, the Dwarka Cement Company is practically on its death-bed. Efforts are being made to save the concern from destruction. Schemes for developing acid industry in Dwarka and the Cement and Alkali industries in Kodinar have made no progress. Times being unfavourable, it is difficult to blame any one. Surely the fate of our country is to be deeply mourned. We hardly know what more is in store for us. Our State is very rich in oil seeds, and bright future awaits for the oil extraction industry, if some energetic and enterprizing person tries to develop it. Gandevi sugar mill has not yet re-started its distillery. Raw materials for the manufacture of sugar, molasses and other spirits are abundent in the Gandevi and Kodinar Taluka. Dyeing industry of Pe lad has attained good reputation and it proves how favourable are the chances here for further development of this industry. Further investigation of the mineral resources of the State is yet desirable. Ransipur china clay possesses good chemical properties. The said deposits with other important clays present bright prospects for the manufacture of clayware. Similarly marble and granite stone quarries of Sankheda as well as the Songir quarries remain yet to be developed.

Natural Gas appears at some places in Baroda. The causes of this phenomenon have been investigated under expert advice and further enquiries and experiments are being carried on in this behalf. Natural Gas appears occasionally in Kodinar also and it is very probable that such gas fields exist even in Okhamandal. Investigations in this connection are necessary.

For the development of trade and industry, money must be made easily available in the market. And monetary facilities for agricultural industries are not obtainable to the desired extent. To remove this grievance His Highness the Maharaja Saheb was pleased to appoint a committee to enquire into and report on the feasibility of a scheme for establishing an "Agricultural Land Mortgage Bank" whereby money could be advanced for agricultural purposes.

The said committee have not concluded their enquiries. Another committee has also been appointed to suggest means for the storage of grass and fodder and cattle breeding on co-operative basis.

The Government of India have recently appointed a committee to report on the economic and financial condition of the peoples of India. The enquiries of this committee will throw light on the economic conditions of our State and we shall be much profited by the report of the said committee.

Government of India have also appointed another committee to enquire into the present Taxes and the committee has begun its work with full vigour. The report of this committee and evidence submitted to it, will furnish us with sound and practicable suggestions.

From one of the suggestions placed for the consideration of the Board, it appears that there exists some misunderstanding about the Terminal Tax levied at Baroda. There has always been an acute rivalry between direct and indirect taxes. And public opinion has declared itself with vehemance in one of the municipal meetings, quite against such a simple direct tax as the House Tax.

Taxes are to the government what hands and feet are to the body. Hence taxes have to be collected in one form or other. Public does not directly feel the burden of such indirect taxes such as Octroi duty, Terminal tax and others of the same kind. Yet it is the duty of the government to see that the trade and commerce are not indirectly affected thereby. The department of Commerce is bound to look into this and that department is not unaware of your suggestions.

The government is doing its best to make available the help of experts for the development of new industries. Recently arrangements have been made for Mr. Dotiwala, who is at present in England, with a view to his obtaining information regarding the working of the distillation factories and perfumery works and the information collected by him, would be of much use to the Alembic Chemical Works. It is expected to start fish canning-industry in Kodinar with his help after his return.

For the further development of trade and commerce increased transport facilities such as construction of Railways and big roads, docks and harbours are quite necessary. Of the new harbours, the Port of Adatra in Okhamandal is well-known. Big steamers would be able to berth them all the year round if that port is improved. The work of improving the said port is proceeding rapidly. This project is likely to cost nearly fifteen lacs of rupees, and it is hoped the new pier would be ready for use before the next Dewali Holidays. Arrangements for the constructions of warehouses and the opening of a branch of the Baroda Bank for affording monetary facilities there, are being made. If the enterprizing merchants of our State use this harbour for the export and import of merchandise meant for Kathiawar, Rajputana and Central India, the State would be ready to offer them further facilities.

Moreover, the project for the improvement of Velan harbour in Kodinar is under consideration. With the construction of the harbour and the extension of the Dhari-Khijadia Railways upto Kodinar, timber from the forests of Dang can be exported at a little cost to Kathiawar through Billimora harbour. Scheme for extending Billimora-Dang Railway to Zaria and Vaghai is under consideration. The same

Railway will be extended to Billimora harbour on the other side whereby the trade at Billimora would be fully developed (to the satisfaction of the government). By sending goods from Billimora to Velan by the sea route, much saving would be effected in time and cost.

For all these developments, the loyal support of the public is needed. If the companies on sound basis are floated with the public money for undertaking these commercial enterprizes, our aim in view would be accomplished. With this suggestion, I request you now to begin your work.

MANUBHAI N.,
Dewan.

APPENDIX III.

(1)

GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in welcoming you to the first session of the Dhara Sabha for the year 1924–25.

2. The rain-fall this year has been fair and well distributed owing to the grace of God, although it was feared that there would be a scarcity of drinking water as the current weakened during the middle of the season. However, as a result of the downpour at the close of the season Shri Sayaji Sarovar has enough supply of water which is expected to last for ten months and it is not likely to run short if used with due care. In the districts, the rain-fall is comparatively less in Amreli and Damnagar Talukas, and although the hopes entertained at the beginning by tbe farmers in Okha-mandal have not been realised, it is hoped that the area affected by scarcity will be limited. There is every reason to believe that the general prosperity of the State will be maintained.

3. It is a matter of gratification that the orders issued instituting an inquiry into their grievances regarding the revision settlement have given satisfaction to the people of the Petlad Taluka. The government is always prepared to inquire sympathetically into the causes of hardships and inconveniences of the people, if redress is sought in a constitutional manner. If in seeking such redress, there is disrespectful behaviour and use of impolite language, it tends to diminish the loyalty of the people towards the Raj. This is not desirable. It has been noticed that there have been efforts to lead the people of the Bhadran Taluka away from the path of unflinching loyalty with the aid of malicious writings and instigations. It is, however, a matter of satisfaction to find the loyal subjects of that Taluka remaining firm in their devotion to the Raj, and I am confident that they will pay no heed to the misguided agitation that would result in their own ruin, and forget the sympathy shown to them by the government on many an occasion. The people of Petlad also, I hope, will after mature consideration of the position of the Indian States, behave in a manner not calculated to affect their internal solidarity.

4. It will be a matter of gratification to you that the management of the Railways under our control is showing a steady improvement. The occasions of not keeping to scheduled time, missing connections, derailments

and engine troubles are fewer, and efforts are being made to remove the causes for complaints that still remain. You will be pleased to know that the income of our Railways which amounted to 14 lacs 5 years ago has increased and come up almost to 24 lacks. All our efforts will now be directed towards lessening the expenditure. We are aiming at reducing the percentage to gross income from 70 to 60.

5. The danger of dacoities and out-lawry has ceased in the State. The dacoit gangs of Mirkhan and Babar Deva, Dabhala and Miyanas have been dispersed and these notorious outlaws have experienced the utmost rigour of the law. It is a matter of satisfaction that gangs of several Kathi, Miyana and Koli outlaws that had been spreading terror amongst the people in the Amreli district have also been destroyed and their leaders taken into custody or killed in action. R. B. Ghatge, our Police Commissioner, deserves our congratulations for these acts of bravery.

6. Negotiations are going on with the British Government regarding the right of His Highness' Government to levy customs on sea-borne trade, to obtain salt for our subjects without their having to pay the tax to the British Government and the refund of the cash amounts given or revenues from districts ceded by us as contribution towards the maintenance of the British Army. You will be satisfied to learn that there are also hopes of the British Government recognising the claim of His Highness' Government to the profits which they make from the Post and Telegraph in our Raj. Negotiations are also in progress for the recognition of the claim of His Highness' Government that their relation to the feudatory States of Kathiawar, Mahikantha, Palanpur and Rewakantha is that of paramount power—the relationship which subsisted a century ago. And although recently a new political Agency has been established for the States of Kathiawar and those that were under the Palanpur Political Agency before, because of their direct relations with the Government of India, His Highness' Government have been given a solemn pledge that their rights will not in the least be affected thereby.

7. It is a matter of satisfaction that Hindu-Moslem unity in our State has not been disturbed in any way. News has been very recently received that the two communities in Visnagar have been reconciled. The friction that was in evidence between them for some time has disappeared, for which I offer my congratulations to the leaders of both these communities.

8. Looking to the work on the agenda for to-day the attention of the government has been drawn to the alleged hardships experienced by the people of the Dehegam and Attarsumba Talukas. Inquiries will be made as to whether there are any disabilities and undue inconvenience caused to the people in consequence of the check put upon the collection of Mahuda and also to why Kefiyats in greater numbers have been made in those Talukas for encroachment on government lands.

9. We shall now begin the work on the agenda for to-day. During the present session the draft of the new Press Act which is important has been placed before you for your advice. While there could be no difference of opinion about the value of liberty of thought and speech, I hope, before offering your advice you will take into account the nature of the relations between an Indian Ruler and his subjects, the treaty relations of the Ruling Prince with the other Princes of India and several other political considerations.

10. In conclusion, I have to mention with feelings of distress the deaths of Mr. Clarke and Mr. Khasherao Jadhav, once members of the Dhara Sabha.

16th October 1924. MANUBHAI N.,
Dewan.

(2)

GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in welcoming you to the second session of the Dhara Sabha for the year 1924-25.

2. Last year His Highness the Maharaja Saheb had under medical advice to spend the winter on the Continent, on account of his continued ill health while he was here. His inability to return to India has caused His Highness regret. At present His Highness is staying in France in the best of health. Messages congratulating His Highness on his last birth-day from the officials and his subjects were sent to His Highness for which I have received a reply by cable from His Highness expressing his satisfaction and gratitude; this has been published for the information of the public.

3. This year the rainfall though comparatively less was well distributed and hence the condition of crops, on the whole, was good. It is a matter of regret that afterwards frost, consequent on excessive cold caused damage to them in some places. While we submit to the will of God, it is a matter of satisfaction to note that new sprouts have sprung up even from the scorched plants. With regard to drinking water, I believe that no scarcity will be felt in the city till the next monsoon, if it is used sparingly. Efforts have been made to sink deep wells by means of boring machines to guard against the scarcity of drinking water likely to be felt in the districts. Government will help the Panchayats wherever necessary in carrying out these measures and repairing troughs, etc. They will be more ready to help those Panchayats that will show zeal and spirit of self-help.

4. For the last year and a half the people in Petlad and Bhadran Talukas have been somewhat dis-satisfied with the Revision Settlement and petition from them for redress had been received. As a result of investiga-

tions made by the department it was found that insufficiency and irregularity of rainfall had adversely affected the water-level in wells for the last three or four years. Holders of land have now been granted certain concessions that were found just and necessary. We hope that this will satisfy the people and their loyalty to His Highness the Maharaja Saheb will continue to be unflinching. We are gratified to learn that orders recently issued have restored the calm and eased the minds of the people of both the Talukas. The relations between His Highness the Maharaja Saheb and his subjects should be those of affection and devotion in our State. His Highness the Maharaja Saheb is always anxious for the welfare of his subjects. They should not forget the extreme care and anxiety shown by him for their happiness and uplift. Their devotion and love alone will greatly benefit his old age.

5. It is no matter of wonder that the atmosphere prevailing in the surrounding territories has affected you also. I earnestly request you to keep your eye on sound reforms, without being tempted by false appearances and imitations.

6. I beg to draw your attention to one or two things which are prominent in the list of interpellations and resolutions before the House for your consideration in the light of what I have said before

7. You have asked for the declaration of the policy of the government with regard to the liquor problem. His Highness alone can determine the policy. We officers of the State can only express our personal views. But after responsible and mature considerations there is a little scope for difference of opinion in this matter. There can be no doubt that the habit of excessive drinking is very ruinous and detrimental to the physical and economical condition of the people. Hence we aim at decreasing the temptations and facilities for drinking. People will of themselves be less inclined to this evil only when they understand the disadvantages of drink and become really conscious of their own self-interest; and for this education is the only remedy. Hence providing educational facilities, cultivating good sense and giving wise counsel are the only effective means. The government cannot accept a scheme which while not helping towards lessening the habit of drinking, will only cause an unnecessary loss of revenue to them on account of illicit manufacture and consumption of liquor by the people. So long as human nature is what it is, total prohibition will have no meaning. It will only cause an increase in expenditure as a large number of officials will have to be engaged for detecting offences. It will also result in the increase of temptations for breaking the law and for smuggling and illicitly manufacturing liquor, as experience has shown in the past. The Bombay Government has begun the experiment of rationing of liquor and gradually decreasing it, but it will not be successful beyond certain limits. They have now found necessary to

declare that this experiment shall have to be put off until means are suggested to make up for the loss in revenue in some other way. It would not be wise to take any such step in matters without mature consideration. We should also think of the wages and means of making up for the loss incurred by giving up a large amount of our excise revenue. And when permanent improvement in morals is doubtful, we should guard against substituting one kind of immorality in place of another. Inspite of these difficulties, I confidently assure you that the government will be firm in their policy of lessening the temptations and facilities for obtaining liquor.

8. I have full sympathy for your desire to enlarge the Dhara Sabha and to widen the sphere of its work. Only I have been requesting you from the beginning not to go in for mere imitation in that respect. From your study of what is going on in the various legislatures in British India, you must have come to the conclusion that the change has not necessarily resulted in the increased happiness or well being of the people. The good relations between the King and his subjects have been disturbed. Where the strength of a State is considered to be mainly in the affection and devotion between the King and his subjects and the contentment of the people, I firmly believe that you also will not desire to weaken our Raj by importing therein the conditions prevailing in British India. We consider your advice as valuable. I believe this advisory Council will render valuable service to the Raj if you all continue to give your advice after a mature study of the true interests of the sovereign and his subjects.

9. We shall now proceed with our business.

26th March 1925.

MANUBHAI N,
Dewan.

---

(3)

GENTLEMEN,

I rejoice to see you assemble to-day to consider the provisional statement for Income and Expenditure in the State for the year 1924-25 and the provisional budget for the year 1925-26.

2. Before we commence the business of the Session, we shall tender, with our humble duty, our congratulations both on behalf of this Dhara Sabha and of the whole Raj to our beloved Maharaja Shrimant Sayaji Rao Maharaj, Sena-Khas-Khel, Samsher-Bahadur, on the completion of the 50th year and the commencement of the 51st year of his accession to the throne and we shall pray to Almighty God to grant His Highness long life, happiness, wealth, peace and prosperity.

3. The unanimous desire of the subjects of the State to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of His Highness' reign will be a matter of gratification to His Highness. From the many messages of congratulations which I received on the occasion yesterday from several towns and cities in the State, it is clear that the devotion of his subjects to the Maharaja Saheb is strong and unswerving, and this, no doubt, will be a matter of satisfaction to you all. You will be glad to learn that the health of His Highness the Maharaja Saheb is very much improved and that he is expected to return on the 20th of November.

4. The proposed budget for the coming year will, I hope, give you satisfaction. In spite of the fact that the expenditure in our State has very much increased during the last five years, our revenue has also increased and while during the last five years other governments have had deficit budgets, our Raj has fortunately seen only surplus budgets. This gratifying result is due to keeping the administration of the State along the wise lines laid down by His Highness the Maharaja Saheb. The credit of these successive prosperous budgets is due to the liberal and far-seeing policy of His Highness the Maharaja Saheb. Instead of a surplus of 12 lacs as originally estimated for the year 1923-24, we had a surplus of 29 lacs. For the current year according to the estimates of the Accounts department there will be an increase of revenue over expenditure by 25 lacs, but we hope that this year also we shall see a saving of 29 to 30 lacs. For the next year the Accounts department has estimated a saving of 32 lacs. Good rains and favourable seasons will be necessary for realising these hopes. Let us invoke the help of God for the due fulfilment of these expectations.

5. We have been able to effect good savings for the last three or four years and as a result the cash on our hands which had diminished to 61 lacs four years ago owing to a large expenditure undertaken in connection with the Railway Workshops, has increased and this year the balance will be 92 to 93 lacs and at the end of the next year it is hoped that the balance on hand will be more than a crore of rupees. Over and above this, we have invested one crore and ten lacs of rupees in Railway shares and other easily convertible securities. Besides, our investments on the State Railways and other productive works amount to about seven crores.

6. I hope that you will consider the financial position of the State as laid before you satisfactory and in view of this I hope you will signify your approval to the demand for expenditure of one crore, ninety-four lacs, thirty-two thousand, two-hundred and six rupees as recommended by the Accounts department for the next year.

7. To save your time I shall place before you some of the suggestions of the Executive Council before we commence discussion on the budget.

8. Presumably you are all aware that the monsoons have not been altogether favourable for the last three or four years and as a result the level of water in wells for drinking water has gone deeper and scarcity of water is being keenly felt in some of the greater towns and villages. Demands for provision for drinking water from cities are pouring. Philanthropic and rich persons are coming forward with liberal offers of help for this form of social service. There is a great need for drainage in a city like Pattan. The Danvir Sheth Nhyalchand has offered to the government a sum of two lacs and a half for water works there. The late Sheth Harichand Manchharam of Visnagar has made a trust and liberally set apart a sum of two lacs for the water works for Visnagar town. Orders have already been given to commence the water works in Mehsana and Navsari. A sum of rupees one lac and seventy thousand only has been provided in this budget for granting loans to Municipalities of towns. The sum will not be adequate to meet the expenditure. The Council has, therefore, recommended a grant of two lacs more towards the expenditure on water works.

9. Considering the budget for the Public Works department, the sum set apart for expenditure on construction of roads in the State is not adequate. The pacca roads in our State are not many. Where the cost of constructing roads and maintaining them in good condition is a very heavy matter, it is necessary to build at least culverts on springs. For this a sum of only one lac and fifteen thousand has been provided in the budget. This is a small sum and we have, therefore, suggested that the grant be increased to two lacs. Resolution No. 16 standing in the name of Mr. Vrajbhai pertains to this matter. He asked for four lacs and although there is a need for greater expenditure it would be wise to proceed gradually and spend only two lacs for the present.

10. His Highness the Maharaja Saheb had passed an order in the year 1919 to grant a sum of rupees one lac every year to all Vishishta Panchayats to aid them in constructing roads and for schemes of town improvement and sanitation That same year he passed an order to set apart a sum of rupees one lac every year in the budget for medical aid and sanitation in villages. Out of that sum the Joint Sar Suba had assigned sixty-three thousand rupees for village sanitation and medical aid and thirty-seven thousand rupees for other town improvements. From this grant some fourth class dispensaries for the benefit of villages were opened. The Joint Sar Suba had suggested that out of one anna of local cess seven pies might be reserved for public works, four pies for education and one

pie for sanitation. The aggregate for sanitation thus reserved comes to thirty-seven thousand rupees and if the Panchayats spend that sum, government would give an equal sum of thirty-seven thousand rupees in aid. In this manner much improvement could be effected every year with the help of seventy-five thousand rupees. But the Panchayats did not keep their zeal and hence the sum was not expended and after two or three years it had to be dropped from the budget, and in the budget for the next year only fifty thousand rupees have been provided for these purposes. We have suggested that another fifty thousand rupees should be added to them.

11. Complaints have been heard from many sides regarding the insufficiency of supply of medicines in the State dispensaries and the expiry of stock before the end of the year. The Chief Medical Officer has for years been asking for an additional sum of rupees one lac to purchase medicines and keep them in stock and considering the favourable financial position for the next year, the Executive Council have recommended an increase of rupees one lac for this purpose in the budget for the Medical department. Not the least surprising part of the business is notices of resolutions against such increase coming from the elected members of the Dhara Sabha.

12. The demands for increased expenditure from various departments continue. We have to sift them carefully and accept those that are reasonable. It is not wise to starve the development activities such as sanitation, education and those fostering trade and industries. There is a demand from the libraries for increased help. We have just received a request from the Library Conference held at Gandevi that the village libraries want more help from government. The University Inspection Committee has advised improvements in the Chemistry Laboratory of the Baroda College and as a result the College has asked for an increase in expenditure. The existing hostels for the students of the College do not afford sufficient accommodation for them and the College Authorities recommend an increase in such facilities. Principal King of Benares has suggested the necessity of building a hostel for the Kalabhavan students and of building a good workshop fitted up with costly machinery. Plans for buildings have been prepared and land acquired for good school buildings for young children in Baroda but for several years their construction could not be commenced. The work for the buildings for the Babajipura School, the Mugalwada Girls' School and the Sayaji Ganj School has not yet been taken in hand. There is a great necessity for a good building for the Central Library in the City. Considering the good name and fame of the library, there is need for a good commodious building. Looking to the difficulties experienced by the clerks in obtaining houses on rent in Mehsana and Navsari there is an urgent necessity for constructing buildings for them at these two places. For all these activities the Council recommend an additional grant of two lacs of rupees.

13. Looking to the resolutions brought by you before the Dhara Sabha many of them relate to reduction in travelling allowance, rejection of demands for dead stock and reduction in contingent expenses. Last year also there were many resolutions of this nature. In view of a great number of them, a Committee of officers and non-official members of the Dhara Sabha was appointed to consider the question. The Committee prepared their report after much deliberation and it was placed before the Council in January last. Final orders have not yet been passed on the report. It has been sent to the various departments for remarks as it was necessary to have their opinions on the many suggestions made by the Committee and it would, therefore, be premature to consider your resolutions before the opinions of the departments are received and report is finally disposed of. Hence it is not necessary to enter into any discussion about them at this stage. Still I may say that the Council is not inclined to accept all the suggestions of the Committee. In the first place, acceptance of their suggestions for reductions in travelling allowance, etc., would mean a probable saving of about eight thousand rupees per year. One of the recommendations of the Committee is to reduce the touring allownces of officers by shortening the period of touring for them. The policy of decentralisation in our State is based on different principles from those in British India. The powers reserved for collectors in British India are conferred in our decentralisation scheme on the Vahivatdars, to enable the local officers to look more effectively to the conveniences of the people. When powers are delegated to lower grades of servants it is specially necessary to keep a stricter supervision over them. Suggestions to reduce the posts of Naib Subas in our State are due to a lack of proper appreciation of this principle. Naib Subas have to do a great deal of supervision work. Reduction in touring would necessarily mean reduction in supervision by the superior officers and the result would hardly be beneficial to the people. It is conceded that the touring officers should dispense with the pomp and show of former days and should keep only a limited number of clerks with them. Orders have been issued accordingly with a view to keep a check on the expenditure incurred on the travelling allowance, etc. The salaries of our State servants compared with those obtaining in British India are smaller and consequently they draw a comparatively less amount as allowance. If at the same time we effect a cut in the railway fares, the prestige of our officers can hardly be maintained, in comparision with British officers. We should not overlook this fact. Occasions are not few when such officers happen to be touring together. The value of money has decreased at present. There is no increase in salaries and on the very face of it, it would be great hardship to the servants if we reduce their allowance at the same time. We shall, however, consider your suggestions at the time of disposing of the report of the committee.

14. We shall also give due consideration to the Committee's suggestions for reductions in the budget provisions for dead stock and contingency. As the Railway workshop and the Kalabhavan workshop will, within a short time, not be able to cope with the work of preparing dead stock articles for various departments, they will be allowed to get those articles from the open market and there would thus be some reduction in the expenses, as recommended by the committee.

15. The principle underlying the rest of your resolutions is for a presentation of the State budget in greater details before the Dhara Sabha. It is no use preparing a detailed scheme in this respect so long as there is no provision in the rules for placing the annual budget before the Dhara Sabha. Besides, considering the plan on which our budget is prepared and considered, your request is hardly feasible. You ask to be allowed to discuss every detail pertaining to every department and that can only be done by a Committee working on the system on which the Budget Committee was working formerly. At present all the details are settled by the Accountant General and the Head of each department by mutual consultation and the budget is submitted to government showing the total demands under various main and sub-heads. The Council ordinarily does not go into the matters which have already been settled by the Heads of departments and the Accountant General. Your desire to discuss such details is not in keeping with our constitution. His Highness the Maharaja Saheb has afforded facilities to the Prant Panchayats to discuss in their meetings whether the various items included in the budget are in accordance with the wants of the people. Orders have been issued that the Subas with the advice of the Prant Panchayats should fix the order in which roads, chowras, and such other public works should be taken up. The budgets of the various departments such as Education, Medical, Sanitation. Agriculture, Co-operation, etc., may be discussed and the order of works fixed in the Prant Panchayats in the same manner as Public Works budget is discussed there by such bodies. The demands for money for each district may similarly be settled. On receiving the detailed budgets with the advice of Prant Panchayats and district officers the Heads of departments could then settle the whole budget in consultation with the Accountant General always keeping an eye on the financial resources of the State, and if after all this the budget is placed before the Dhara Sabha, we should, instead of discussing the details, discuss only the main suggestions or suggestions for some new works. The precedents in the legislative assemblies of British India are, for these reasons not applicable to the circumstances prevailing here. Still however, we shall have to prepare a scheme for the discussion of the budget in the Dhara

Sabha, which will meet your desires and be in keeping with the earnest wish to promote the development of the Panchayats in the Raj. When the rules are amended to provide for the discussion of the budget in the Dhara Sabha, it will be convenient to fix the details permanently. At present it is not possible to do anything further than note your suggestion in this respect.

16. Again I welcome you and request you to commence the business of the day.

28th May 1925.

MANUBHAI N.,
Dewan.

General Index.

A

B

B—*Contd.*

C—*Contd.*

E—*Contd.*

H

I

J

K

L

L—*Contd.*

P

Q

R

R—*Contd.*

S

S—*Contd.*